Appendix A Notice of Intent

Neurosciences, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2014.

Carolyn Baum,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2014-10297 Filed 5-5-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Nursing Research; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Nursing Research Initial Review Group.

Date: June 2-3, 2014.

Time: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Weiqun Li, MD, Scientific Review Officer, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Blvd. Suite 703, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–5966, wli@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Nursing Research Special Emphasis Panel; Enhancing Sustainability and Building the Science of Palliative Care.

Date: June 4, 2014.

Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott Suites, 6711 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: Tamizchelvi Thyagarajan, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 703, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–0343, tamizchelvi.thyagarajan@nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.361, Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2014.

Michelle Trout,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2014–10300 Filed 5–5–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA-2014-0014]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Flow Corridor Flood Reduction and Habitat Restoration Project, Tillamook County, Oregon

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with other Federal agencies, intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) evaluating the environmental impacts associated with funding activities to reduce flood impacts and to restore habitat for fish and wildlife within Tillamook County, Oregon. FEMA intends to provide funding for the project, known as the Southern Flow Corridor project, to the Port of Tillamook Bay (Applicant) through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Other funding for the project comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center, State of Oregon lottery funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Tillamook County. Other public and private entities may also provide funding to support the Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region X, 130 228th Street SW., Bothell, WA 98021, phone: 425–487–4735, email: mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with other Federal agencies, intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) evaluating the environmental impacts associated with funding activities to reduce flood impacts and to restore habitat for fish and wildlife within Tillamook County, Oregon. FEMA intends to provide funding for the project, known as the Southern Flow

Corridor project, to the Port of Tillamook Bay (Applicant) through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Other funding for the project comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center, State of Oregon lottery funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Tillamook County. Other public and private entities may also provide funding to support the Project.

Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, and FEMA's Environmental Considerations regulations require the preparation of an EIS for major Federal actions that would have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. The CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1501.7 require the issuance of a notice of intent to prepare an EIS prior to initiating the scoping process. Scoping is an early and open process that assists the Federal action agency in determining the scope of issues to be addressed and in identifying significant issues related to a proposed action.

FEMA received a Public Assistance application from the Port of Tillamook Bay for the Southern Flow Corridor (Project) as an alternate project to the repairs of its rail line that was damaged during flooding and severe storms in December, 2007. FEMA's proposed action is to provide funding for the Project; this funding is authorized under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended.

The development of the Project by the Applicant originated through an initiative of the Oregon Solutions Program, which is a program launched by the Governor's office after passage of the Oregon Sustainability Act in 2001. This initiative brought together Federal, State, and local government agencies to identify strategies for implementing flood control measures and ecosystem restoration actions within the Tillamook Bay watershed. The Oregon Solutions team identified, evaluated, and prioritized projects. Multiple alternatives were considered along with multiple funding sources. The proposed Project is the outcome of this effort. More information can be found at: http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/ Documents/Misc/White%20Paper.pdf. This report includes a graphical depiction of constructed elements, alternatives considered by the Applicant prior to the development of the

Southern Flow Corridor project, previous public outreach and involvement efforts, and a history of efforts since the late 1990s to address flooding and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay watershed.

The Applicant's goal for the Project is to restore flood flow pathways from the Wilson River to Tillamook Bay. Implementation of the Project will result in flood level reductions across the lower Wilson River floodplain and to a lesser degree on the lower Trask and Tillamook Rivers. The Project is intended to reduce the flood levels to more natural levels over a wide range of flood magnitudes, but it will not reduce the frequency of flooding, which is controlled by flows and bank elevations upstream. Another goal of the Project is to restore ecological function and habitat for salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act and for other fish and wildlife.

The Project proposes to accomplish these goals by removing existing levees and fills to restore tidal marsh, and creating new setback tidal dikes to protect adjacent private lands. Key preliminary project elements include: (1) Levee, Fill, and Structure Removal: Remove approximately 6.9 miles of existing levee, 2.1 miles of road, 4 structures, and lower 2.1 miles of levee within the flow corridor to provide increased flood conveyance and allow the natural processes to restore ecosystem functions and habitat in the project area (total fill removal is estimated at 85,000 cubic yards); (2) New Tidal Setback and Upgraded Levees: Approximately 1.4 miles of new tidal setback levee will be constructed and up to 2.3 miles of existing levee adjusted to design grade (lowered or raised), and strengthened in order to improve flood conveyance and protect adjacent agricultural lands from tidal influence in the project area; (3) New Floodgates: A series of floodgates will be incorporated in the new levee in order to replace the existing gates slated for removal. Some of the existing floodgates may be recycled and re-used in the new levee system; (4) Hall Slough Elements: Additional flood reduction elements include improving the hydraulic connectivity between Hall and Blind Sloughs through removal of the Fuhrman Road berm and constructing an approximate 1,000-footlong Hall Slough—Blind Slough connector channel; (5) Drainage Network Improvements: Improvements to the existing drainage ditches inside the new levee will be made as necessary to connect them to the new floodgates and ensure that equal or better drainage is maintained once the project is

implemented. In addition, over 3 miles of drainage ditches will be filled to restore a natural drainage regime and improve habitat conditions; (6) Habitat Restoration Elements: The project elements described above are anticipated to result in full tidal inundation of 521 acres of restored marsh and wetland fringe habitat. In addition, the project would include extensive placement of large wood habitat features and reconnection of high-quality tidal channel habitat by constructing new channels, which are expected to naturally expand in total length to approximately 14 miles; and (7) Property Acquisition: The majority of the project area is already held in public ownership (398 acres), but acquisition of additional acres in private ownership is required. In addition. permanent flood easements and temporary construction easements may be required to maintain post-project floodplain functions and for proposed modifications of existing levees and removal of some dredge spoils on lands not required for acquisition.

The EIS scoping process will utilize and build upon the previous efforts of the Oregon Solutions team. To further scope the Project, FEMA will be soliciting public input to help identify and refine Project alternatives and significant issues for evaluation in the EIS. Outreach for the scoping process will include a public notice in local and regional media, direct mailing to interested parties, and a public scoping meeting. Federal, State and local agencies, Indian tribes, interested organizations and individuals will be asked to comment on the scope of issues, alternatives and their potential impacts. This outreach effort is planned for the spring of 2014 in Tillamook County. The specific date, time, and location for the public meeting will be provided with the public notice. A similar approach is planned for release of the Draft EIS.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4331 *et seq.*; 40 CFR part 1500; 44 CFR part 10.

W. Craig Fugate,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2014–10331 Filed 5–5–14; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 9111–A6–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2014-N074: FXES11120400000-145-FF04EF2000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan and Associated Documents; Charlotte County, Florida

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment/information.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of an incidental take permit (ITP) application and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Troy Powell (applicant) requests an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The applicant anticipates taking about 1.0 acre of foraging, breeding, and sheltering habitat used by the Florida scrub-jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens) (scrub-jay) incidental to land preparation and for the construction of a single-family residence, barn, and associated infrastructure in Charlotte County, Florida. The applicant's HCP describes the minimization and mitigation measures proposed to address the effects of the project on the scrub-jay. **DATES:** Written comments on the ITP application and HCP should be sent to the South Florida Ecological Services Office (see ADDRESSES) and should be received on or before June 5, 2014.

ADDRESSES: See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for information on how to submit your comments on the ITP application and HCP. You may obtain a copy of the ITP application and HCP by writing the South Florida Ecological Services Office, Attn: Permit number TE31192B–0, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960–3559. In addition, we will make the ITP application and HCP available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brian Powell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, South Florida Ecological Services Office (see ADDRESSES); telephone: 772–469 –4315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Submitting Comments

If you wish to comment on the ITP application and HCP, you may submit

Appendix B Scoping Report

Scoping Report

Southern Flow Corridor Project

DR-1733-OR

Tillamook County, Oregon

August 2014



Federal Emergency Management Agency Region X Department of Homeland Security 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021 This page left intentionally blank

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

CCMP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

DSL Department of State Lands

EIS environmental impact statement

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NOI Notice of Intent

ODOT Oregon Department of Transportation

OEM Office of Emergency Management

OWEB Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

PA Public Assistance

POTB Port of Tillamook Bay

SFC Southern Flow Corridor

TBHEID Tillamook Bay Habitat and Estuary Improvement District

USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SECTION 1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and state and local partners, are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. FEMA will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to document the benefits and impacts of possible alternative solutions to these issues. FEMA is the federal lead agency. NOAA, USFWS, and USACE are cooperating agencies.

1.2 Purpose of this Report

This report summarizes the public participation process for, and the public comments resulting from, the Southern Flow Corridor (SFC) project public scoping meeting and comment period. Scoping is the process of determining the range, focus, and content of an EIS. A scoping meeting is an opportunity to obtain information from the public and governmental agencies. In particular, the scoping process enables agencies and interested parties to provide input on the proposed alternative solutions, purpose and need for the project, topics of evaluation, and the potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures to be considered.

1.3 Background

Five rivers enter the Tillamook Bay estuary, which includes the mouths of the Miami, Kilchis, Wilson, Trask, and Tillamook rivers. Flooding occurs frequently in the lower reaches of the Wilson, Trask, and Tillamook rivers, typically between October and April. High tides combine with storm surges, heavy rainfall, and snowmelt, causing coastal and inland flooding. Fourteen major river and coastal floods have been recorded in the Tillamook Basin since 1916. Flood losses in Tillamook County exceeded \$60 million from 1996 through 2000 and included damages to homes, farmland, businesses, and infrastructure. Additional flood losses have been incurred by the Tillamook community since 2000.

In response to these frequent flood events, Port of Tillamook Bay (POTB), Tillamook County, the City of Tillamook, several state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and local business interests have been working together to identify solutions to Tillamook Valley's ongoing flood problem. Numerous investigations, studies, and collaborative evaluations of potential flood reduction actions that have taken place since 1994 led to the designation of flooding in central Tillamook County as an Oregon Solutions project¹ by the governor of Oregon. The Tillamook Bay SFC project is an outcome of that Oregon Solutions effort.

¹ The Oregon Solutions Program is a community governance program initiated by the Oregon Sustainability Act of 2001 housed in the Portland State University National Policy Consensus Center. The Oregon Solutions Program "brings representatives from the business, nonprofit, and civic sector to make commitments, take on specific roles and responsibilities, leverage and pool resources, [and solve problems]." (Oregon Solutions 2014)

FEMA's engagement in the ongoing flood problem and the SFC project stems from a December 2007 flood event (DR-1733) that resulted in damage across the Tillamook Valley, including severe damage to a historic railroad owned by POTB. FEMA received an application to its Public Assistance (PA) grant program from the POTB for the SFC project as an alternate project to the repairs of its rail line. FEMA's proposed action is to provide funding for the project as authorized under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended.

1.4 Project Study Area

The project study area is located in northwestern Oregon and includes portions of the City of Tillamook, Tillamook Bay, the Tillamook River, Trask River, Wilson River, as well as Blind Slough, Hall Slough, Dougherty Slough, Hoquarten Slough, and Nolan Slough, as shown in **Figure 1.1**. The U.S. Highway 101 business corridor is located in the eastern portion of the project study area. The project study area includes lands that may be affected directly or indirectly by each alternative.

1.5 Alternatives

The following alternatives were presented at the agency and public scoping meetings for consideration during the scoping process: No Action Alternative, SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative (proposed action), Hall Slough Alternative, SFC – Initial Alternative, and the Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative. Comments received during scoping will be considered as the selection of a range of alternatives is developed for the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will also be made available for public review and comment. The alternatives presented at scoping are briefly described below.

1.5.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, FEMA would not fund any of the proposed flood damage reduction and habitat restoration actions, and the project actions would not be implemented. Because the proposed FEMA funding is a significant portion of the funding needed to implement the SFC project, the No Action Alternative is defined as an alternative where there would be no work in the project area, and there would not be any changes in the area's existing levee and wetland conditions.

Under the No Action Alternative,

- There would be no construction in the project area.
- Existing levee and dike configurations would remain the same.
- There would be no change in existing flood elevations across the floodplain.
- Blind Slough would not be reconnected to the Wilson River.
- Off channel fish habitat and tidal wetland conditions would continue present trends.
- There would be no change in existing land uses.

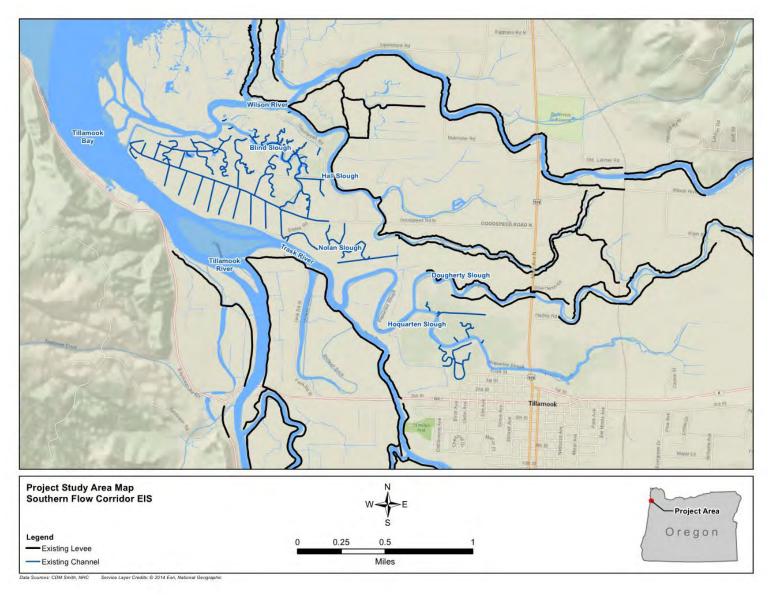


Figure 1.1. Project Study Area

1.5.2 Alternative 1: Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

The primary intent of SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative is to reduce flooding by removing manmade impediments to peak flows in the lower Wilson River floodplain to the maximum extent possible. The proposed action would accomplish this by removing existing levees and earthen fills that form dikes along the edges of the sloughs and rivers that traverse and border the project area. New setback levees would be required to protect adjacent private lands. Affected areas waterward of the setback levees would be restored to tidal wetlands. Targeted environmental restoration benefits would include fish and wildlife habitat, fish passage, tidal wetland, ecosystem function, floodplain function, and water quality.

As part of the SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative,

- Approximately 6.9 miles of levees would be removed, and 2.8 miles would be modified to allow floodwaters to flow across the project area.
- Approximately 1.4 miles of new levees would be built to protect lower delta agricultural lands from storm surges and high tides.
- Approximately 526 acres of wetlands would be restored in the areas re-opened to tidal influences.
- A flowage easement would be required over approximately 85 acres to allow high flows to pass to Tillamook Bay.

The SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative would provide flood hazard reduction from small frequent events through a 100-year event.

1.5.3 Alternative 2: Hall Slough Alternative

Hall Slough, a side channel of the Wilson River, historically connected to the Wilson River at its upstream and downstream ends. Prior to the 1950s, a bridge carried the Wilson River Loop Road across Hall Slough to maintain the connection. Since the 1950s when a small culvert replaced the bridge, the upper slough has been disconnected from the Wilson River.

As part of the Hall Slough Alternative,

- The upper end of Hall Slough would be reconnected to the Wilson River.
- Approximately 6.7 miles of levees along the channel's length would be set back and modified.
- Approximately 4.1 miles of Hall Slough would be widened and deepened to facilitate flood flows through Hall Slough to Tillamook Bay and to reduce flooding.
- Tidal wetlands may form in the area between the setback levees and the new, widened channel.

This alternative flood mitigation approach would not provide flood hazard reduction for all floods, but it would help to control the nuisance floods that disrupt traffic on U.S. Highway 101 and occur every 1 to 2 years.

1.5.4 Alternative 3: Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

The SFC – Initial Alternative was developed as a part of the Oregon Solutions Project. It shares a number of characteristics with the proposed action, which developed as an update and refinement of the Initial Alternative. The two vary in their proposed levee, floodgate, and drainage network configurations. This alternative would function like the proposed action in that it would remove manmade impediments to peak flows in the lower Wilson River floodplain and restore tidal wetlands and channels.

As part of the SFC – Initial Alternative,

- Approximately 8.8 miles of levees would be removed.
- Approximately 1.8 miles of levees would be modified or built to protect lower delta agricultural lands.
- Approximately 715 acres of tidal wetlands would be restored.
- Flood elevations would be reduced.

1.5.5 Alternative 4: Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative

Under Alternative 4, the project would construct a swale to direct floodwaters to a flowage easement over 175 acres before flows reach Tillamook Bay. Approximately 3 miles of levees would be removed and another 5.3 miles would be modified or built to help protect agricultural lands from tidal inundation, and 226 acres of wetlands would be restored.

The saltwater marsh to the north of the project area would be reconnected to the Wilson River by removing the plug and tidegate in Blind Slough, removing levee fills at several historical sloughs, and creating an overflow from the left bank of Hall Slough. A swale would be constructed downstream of U.S. Highway 101 between Dougherty and Hall sloughs to direct floodwaters into the project area and to Tillamook Bay. The swale would be intended to prevent a rise in 100-year flood elevations upstream of the project area.

As part of the Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative,

- Approximately 3 miles of levees would be removed.
- Approximately 3 miles of levees would be modified, and 2.3 miles of levees would be built to protect lower delta agricultural lands and direct flows.
- Approximately 226 acres of tidal wetlands would be restored.
- A 1-mile-long swale would be built to direct floodwaters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay.

• Flood elevations would be reduced in the project area.

1.6 Summary of Purpose and Need

As presented during scoping, the purpose of the SFC project in Tillamook Bay is to reduce life safety risks from floods and flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods while also contributing to the recovery of federally listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species.

The objectives for this action are to reduce flood damage in portions of Tillamook, Oregon near the U.S. Highway 101 business corridor and to re-establish a properly functioning and self-sustaining estuarine tidal marsh ecosystem that would provide critical rearing habitat for salmonids and other native fish species and wildlife species in the Tillamook Bay estuary.

The need for the project results from the area's history of severe repetitive flooding with widespread damage to property, road closures, and other economic losses. In addition, several fish and wildlife species that historically depended on the wetland, tidal marsh, and aquatic habitats of the estuary are threatened or endangered.

Future unmitigated flooding in the Tillamook Valley would contribute to potential future life safety risks and physical and economic damages to property and businesses in the floodplains. Blockages to fish passage, losses of aquatic and wetland habitats, and altered sediment erosion and deposition regimes will continue to degrade important fish and wildlife habitats in the estuary, cause additional species to become threatened or endangered, and hamper recovery plans for currently protected species that use the project area.

1.7 Project Participants

The project participants include FEMA and other federal, state, and local partners. NOAA, USFWS, and USACE are cooperating agencies. NOAA and USFWS are considering funding portions of the project. Additionally, they will provide specific expertise on biological resources and threatened and endangered species. The Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is the grantee for FEMA grant funding. The POTB is the subgrantee for FEMA grant funding, and Tillamook County is the grantee for NOAA and USFWS funding. Other project partners include Oregon Solutions, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), the Tillamook Estuary Partnership, the Tillamook Bay Habitat and Estuary Improvement District (TBHEID), and individual donors. In addition, CCPRS is FEMA's consultant team for preparation of the EIS, and Tillamook County has engaged Impact Consulting and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants to assist with project development.

SECTION 2 Scoping Process

2.1 Early Scoping Activities

As part of the USACE feasibility study and with the support of the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners, a substantial public involvement program was put in place, including a Feasibility Study Advisory Council comprised of members of the public. Monthly meetings were held from May 2000 through April 2004 to formulate and analyze policy recommendations and proposals for alternative projects. Two public meetings were held in July 2002 regarding the feasibility study; the primary concerns from those meetings and responses to those concerns are as follows:

- *Dredging at River Mouths:* Model analysis showed that dredging to increase the depth of the rivers would have a less significant reduction on flood levels than increasing the width of the channels. It also would be more localized in its effects. Dredging is not expected to provide habitat benefits. Dredging also would require funding for channel maintenance over the life of the project.
- *Increasing the Width of River Channels:* This would require willing landowners to provide some land that would cease to be available for current uses.
- Eliminating the Kilchis River from Further Consideration: Modeling analysis showed that changes to the Kilchis River would be localized in the immediate area of the project and would not affect flood levels at the Highway 101 business district.

The feasibility study identified 59 potential flood reduction and habitat restoration measures though public forums, including public open houses, before being narrowed to 11 alternatives.

In 2007, the Oregon Solutions Program brought together stakeholders to identify strategies for implementing flood control measures and habitat restoration actions within the Tillamook Bay Watershed. Stakeholders included federal, state, and local agencies; nonprofit organizations; local business interests (including members of the congressional delegation, state legislators, the Governor's Office, the POTB, the Tillamook Creamery Association, and Tillamook Farm Bureau); as well as local representation from the farm community, businesses, landowners, and fishing guides.

The Oregon Solutions team identified, evaluated, and prioritized projects, including three that were originally described in the USACE Feasibility Study: Dougherty Slough Permanent Structure, the Hall Slough Project, and the Modified Wetland Restoration and Swale Project. The draft Project Exodus Report was circulated for public and agency comment in late September 2009, and a final report was issued in February 2010. Outreach activities included creating a project team comprised of representatives from 37 public agencies and other organizations, hosting public meetings, and rebroadcasting meetings on the Charter Cable PEG Government channel to the 10,418 subscribers in Tillamook and Lincoln counties. Since 2012, all meetings have been posted on tetvonline.com for 1 year. Also, the TBHEID included the SFC project on the agenda of almost every quarterly meeting between 2009 and 2013 as well as hosting public meetings focused on the SFC project.

2.2 Draft EIS Scoping Activities

In accordance with NEPA, FEMA and the project partners have initiated the environmental review process for the SFC project. Public involvement will help determine the range, focus, and content of the EIS. The Draft EIS will identify direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts for each of the alternatives being considered in detail and that might result from project funding, design, construction, or operation.

FEMA published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register on May 6, 2014. The NOI included a description of the project purpose and need and the alternatives. Appendix A contains a copy of the NOI.

The NEPA scoping process allows agencies and interested parties to provide input on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation, and potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered.

The public comment period and meeting dates, times, and locations were announced through a variety of public notification means (described in the sections that follow). Comments were accepted by FEMA from the date of publication of newspaper advertisements in the Tillamook community (May 14, 2014) through June 13, 2014. This schedule provided a public comment period of 30 days. One agency and one public scoping meeting were held on May 28, 2014 to introduce the project and to receive comments on the proposed alternatives and potential issues that should be examined as part of the environmental analysis.

2.3 Agency Scoping

In accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1501.7 requirements, FEMA (in partnership with NOAA and USFWS) invited federal, state, and local agencies to participate in the project and provide their feedback during scoping.

2.3.1 Cooperating Agencies

Cooperating agencies are, by definition in 40 CFR 1508.5, federal agencies with jurisdiction (by law or special expertise) with respect to any environmental impact involved in the proposed project. NOAA, USFWS, and USACE are cooperating agencies for this project. NOAA and USFWS will provide funding for the project under separate grants; they are the lead agencies for compliance with the Endangered Species Act. USACE is a cooperating agency because of its substantial role in permitting the project and its special expertise in wetland restoration and levee construction.

2.3.2 Partner Agencies

In addition to FEMA, NOAA, and USFWS, the main partner agencies and their roles are:

- Oregon OEM FEMA PA Program grantee
- POTB FEMA PA Program subgrantee
- Tillamook County NOAA and USFWS Grantee/Subgrantee and project sponsor

Other governmental agency partners that are providing funding and support include OWEB and Oregon Solutions. Additionally, non-governmental groups, such as TBHEID and Tillamook Estuary Partnership, along with individual donors are contributing funds to this project.

The responsibilities of these agencies include, but are not limited to, participating in the NEPA scoping process, providing comments throughout the process, and sharing their expertise.

2.3.3 Agency Scoping Meeting

FEMA mailed invitation letters on May 9, 2014 to government agencies and tribes with a potential interest in the project. The letters provided information on scoping, how to provide comments, and details about the agency scoping meeting. Letters were sent to primary agency contacts and emails to staff representatives who had been previously involved in the project. Appendix B includes a list of agencies and tribes that received scoping invitation letters and emails, the letters sent to agencies on May 12, 2014, the email sent on May 14, 2014, and the follow-up email sent on May 22, 2014, reminding recipients of the agency scoping meeting. A total of 16 federal agencies, 3 tribes, 13 state agencies, and 4 local agencies were notified.

One agency scoping meeting was held as follows:

Time: Wednesday, May 28, 2014, 10:00 A.M.

Location: 2020 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 300

Portland, OR 97201

Attendees: 19, representing the following 10 agencies and jurisdictions:

- FEMA
- NOAA
- Oregon OEM
- POTB
- Tillamook County
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- USACE
- U.S. Geological Survey

FEMA hosted the meeting, and FEMA and Tillamook County staff presented information to the group. The presentation provided an overview of NEPA and the scoping process, described the project's purpose and need, presented the alternatives, and discussed next steps. Attendees asked clarifying questions during the presentation. Following the presentation, they were able to review the exhibit boards from the public scoping meeting. Appendix B contains the agency scoping meeting sign-in sheet, presentation, and meeting notes.

2.3.4 Agency Scoping Meeting Comments

The topics raised at the agency scoping meeting included:

- Estimated costs of alternative projects, including maintenance and long term costs; inclusion of maintenance costs in the benefit-cost analysis; the wide cost differential among alternatives; and year of cost basis.
- Amount of property acquisition required for the Modified Wetland Alternative in comparison to the proposed action.
- The potential for concurrent highway construction by ODOT in downtown Tillamook, which is scheduled to last 3 years.
- The potential for wetland mitigation banking, which may be an appropriate funding mechanism for the SFC project, based on a recently completed ODOT flood reduction project near Seaside, Oregon.
- Potentially contaminated soils associated with the historical veneer mills in the project area, which might require costly special handling procedures for disposing of contaminated materials. Tillamook County is currently working on addressing potential soil contamination through a voluntary cleanup program.

2.4 Public Scoping

Public scoping is an important element in the public involvement process of determining the focus and content of the EIS. The strategies used to engage the public to participate in the environmental review process and attend the scoping meeting included: (1) make it easy to participate, (2) provide easy-to-understand information that helps people share informed scoping comments, (3) offer multiple ways to obtain information and provide comment, and (4) ensure stakeholders are aware of the planning process and are shown how public input will be used.

2.4.1 Notification Database

The project team developed a project notification database by compiling the contact information for public agencies and other stakeholders interested in the project as well as property owners within and adjacent to the project area. The database included 130 federal, state, and local agencies; stakeholders; and members of the public, including adjacent property owners.

2.4.2 Public Notification Activities

Postcards were sent to individuals who did not have an email address in the notification database. Emails were sent whenever appropriate. Newspaper display ads were placed in three regional and local papers, and notices were posted in public places throughout the community. Additionally, the EIS team developed a project website to provide pertinent project and scoping information as well as an electronic path to submit comments. Copies of the public scoping meeting notification materials are provided in Appendix C.

2.4.2.1 Direct Mail Notice

Postcards inviting people to attend the scoping meeting were mailed on May 8, 2014, to a list of 40 entries that included elected officials, interested persons, and property owners within and adjacent to the project area. An additional 65 postcards were sent by TBHEID on May 9, 2014, to contacts on the TBHEID mailing list. The postcards provided information on scoping, how to provide comments, and the public scoping meeting information. The postcards announced the availability of translation services in the Spanish language. A copy of the postcard is included in Appendix C.

2.4.2.2 Email Notification

An invitation email was created that included information on the public scoping meetings and how to provide comments. The email was sent by FEMA on May 14, 2014, to approximately 70 public and stakeholder addresses from the notification database in addition to 35 agency staff members. The emails announced the availability of translation services in the Spanish language. A copy of the email is included in Appendix C.

2.4.2.3 Newspaper Advertisements

To invite the public to the scoping meetings and notify individuals about the comment period, display advertisements were placed in three newspapers: The Oregonian, which ran in both Portland and Tillamook; The Headlight Herald, which ran in Tillamook; and the Tillamook Shopper, which ran in Tillamook. Newspapers were selected based on their geographic focus, audited circulation numbers, and readership diversity. (The Tillamook Shopper is a free newspaper.) Display ads ran on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. The display ads announced the availability of translation services in the Spanish language. Copies of the display ads are included in Appendix C.

2.4.2.4 Posters

A poster was designed to provide information on the public scoping meetings and how to provide comments. The posters were displayed in the POTB lobby, main branch of the Tillamook Library, and the Tillamook County Courthouse. The poster was also placed on POTB's website and on their Facebook page. It was also distributed to the Tillamook County Pioneer (a local news provider). The poster announced the availability of translation services in the Spanish language. A copy of the poster is included in Appendix C.

2.4.2.4 Project Website

The project website, www.SouthernFlowEIS.org, provided information about the project, the environmental review process, and the scoping information. The website also included information about how to submit scoping comments and who to contact for additional information. The website prominently featured the dates and times of the public scoping meeting (with Spanish text that announced the availability of translation services) and the materials used at the public scoping meeting. Also available on the website was other information of interest to the public, including links to project partners' websites, an EIS overview, a project overview, information about how to get involved with the project and how to comment on the project, and a list of useful links. The website also provided a link to a printable version of the comment form

and an electronic form for submitting scoping comments. A printout of the website interface is included in Appendix C.

2.4.2.6 Additional Outreach during the Public Scoping Period

A poster advertising the public scoping meeting ran on TCTV/Charter Channel 4 as a community service from May 22 to 28, 2014. The poster is included in Appendix C. Jane Scott Video Productions, contracted by TBHEID, filmed the public scoping meeting presentation; the video was posted to the Jane Scott website

(http://janescottvideoproductions.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=1f2a849bf5d67537d0d90aef 58da1c6e) on June 7, 2014 and ran on the local government access TV channel (local Charter cable TCTV/Channel 4) several times daily from June 7, 2014 through June 13, 2014. Confirmation of the video broadcast is included in Appendix C.

2.4.3 Limited English Proficiency Evaluation

Based on the American Community Survey from 2008 to 2012 (estimated dates), the demographics of the City of Tillamook, in comparison to the State of Oregon as a whole, are as follows:

- A less diverse population (85 percent Caucasian) though slightly higher percentage Hispanic/Latino population (13 percent).
- A higher percentage of people speak English at home (91 percent). Of people who speak a non-English language (9 percent), only 48 percent are fluent English speakers.

Based on this information, a sentence was provided in Spanish on all meeting notification materials and the website announcing the availability of Spanish translation services and materials. No requests for translation services were received.

2.4.4 Elected Official Briefings

FEMA notified elected officials of the Tillamook area prior to the scoping meetings by providing them the scoping notice information listed above.

2.4.5 Public Scoping Meeting

FEMA hosted a public scoping meeting on May 28, 2014, to inform the public about the project and gather input on the scope of the environmental studies, draft purpose and need statements, and project alternatives to be evaluated. The meeting complied with NEPA guidelines. The meeting location was close to the Tillamook project area community and the POTB and was Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. The scoping meeting occurred mid-scoping period to allow people an opportunity to become familiar with the project materials available on the website prior to the meeting and to submit comments following the meeting.

A total of 45 people registered at the public meeting although there may have been additional attendees who did not sign in. Photos from the meeting are included in Appendix D. Nine written comments were received at the meeting.

The public scoping meeting was held as follows:

Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Time: 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Location: POTB, Officer's Mess Hall

6825 Officers Row Tillamook, OR

The room used for the public scoping meeting is ADA accessible; all notification materials announced that special accommodations would be provided upon request. No requests for special accommodations were received.

2.4.5.1 Public Scoping Meeting Format

A presentation was held at the beginning of the public scoping meeting followed by an open house with exhibit boards. The POTB began the presentation by introducing the project and welcoming the public to the meeting. FEMA representatives provided an overview of the project and NEPA process. A representative from Tillamook County then presented the five alternatives before transitioning to the open house session. A copy of the presentation is included in Appendix D as well as a simpler presentation that was posted on the project website. During the open house session, project team members were present at exhibit boards to answer questions related to the technical aspects of the project. The open house provided attendees with an opportunity to review the project information and clarify their understanding of the project and environmental process.

Written comments were accepted on comment cards provided at the meeting. A large scale map of the project area was used during the open house session to guide discussions. A copy of the project area discussion map is included in Appendix D. One attendee provided a written comment on the map; a photo of that comment is included with the meeting photos in Appendix F. Written comments were collected at the meeting and also accepted by mail, fax, and email after the meetings until the close of the comment period on June 13, 2014. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the community providing comments before the comment deadline, regardless of the method that the comments were submitted.

2.4.5.2 Public Meeting Materials

Each meeting attendee was offered the following materials as they entered the meeting: a comment card, a community guide to scoping handout, and a factsheet on the alternatives. Children were offered a coloring sheet. The comment card allowed attendees to submit written comments during the meeting or to mail them in after the meeting. The comment card was designed as a self-mailer so that individuals could mail comments to FEMA if they needed more time to consider them after the public scoping meeting. The comment card included prompts to guide feedback and focus comments on the project's purpose and need; possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need; resources that could be impacted; and ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives. The community guide to scoping handout provided a project overview and included a glossary of common terms used in a NEPA process. The alternatives factsheet was offered to meeting attendees to provide additional information on the

five alternatives presented as part of scoping. The coloring sheet, available in both English and Spanish, asked children to draw or describe what they see in the Tillamook Bay estuary.

Project exhibit boards were developed and used during the public open house. Copies of the exhibit boards also were posted on the website and are included in Appendix D. The boards included: Welcome to the Meeting, What is an environmental impact statement (EIS)?, Purpose and Need, No Action Alternative, SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative, Hall Slough Alternative, SFC – Initial Alternative, Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative, and Comment and Next Steps.

Copies of the meeting materials were posted on the project website and are included in Appendix D.

2.5 Comments Received

The public scoping period was 30 days, from May 14 to June 13, 2014. All interested people were provided opportunities to submit written comments at the public scoping meeting as well as the opportunity to submit comments in writing via email, fax, or letter. The comment card distributed at the public meeting was designed to facilitate written comments at the public meeting or via mail during the public comment period. In total, 29 public comment letters, emails, and comment cards were received by the close of the public comment period. Each letter, email, and comment card discussed multiple topics. Comments received after the conclusion of the official comment period were (and will continue to be) reviewed but may not be included in the official record for the scoping period. Comments are still being solicited via the project website. Copies of all public comments received are included in Appendix E; copies of all agency comments received are included in Appendix F.

SECTION 3 Summary of Scoping Comments

3.1 Introduction

FEMA accepted comments on the SFC project throughout the scoping period, from May 14, 2014 until June 13, 2014. Agencies, community groups, members of the public, and other interested parties submitted 38 letters, emails, and comment cards during this period. The comments can be found in Appendices E and F. Table 3-1 provides a summary of the topics discussed in the comments.

Readers should note that the combined number of comments listed in the following subsections and the summary table is greater than the total number of letters, emails, and comment card submissions because each submission discussed multiple topics.

3.2 Summary of Substantive Comments

All letters, emails, and comment card submissions were reviewed and categorized in an electronic database. The database contains information documenting the name of the commenter, the agency or organization the commenter represents, the method by which the comment was received, and the topic categories addressed in the comment. The full text of each comment is included in Appendices E and F.

The comments fit into three topic categories: the project purpose and need (approximately 11 comments), the alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS (including alternative options, additional alternatives to consider, and possible combinations of alternatives; approximately 25 comments), and environmental impacts and mitigation measures (more than 230 comments). Many submissions crossed topics and were placed under multiple categories to fully characterize the feedback. The following sections contain a summary of comments received during the scoping period based on the environmental resource categories that will be discussed in the Draft EIS, as described in the SFC Project Annotated Outline, included as Appendix G. Comments received from the public during the scoping period are summarized in Table 3-1 and described in more detail in Sections 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5. Agency comments are summarized separately in Section 3.6.

Table 3-1. Numbers of Comments Received by Category and Topic¹

Purpose and Need	Support (11) Do Not Support (0)	
Proposed Alternatives	No Action (1) Support (1) Do Not Support (0) Hall Slough (5) Support (4) Do Not Support (1) Do Not Support (1) Support (1) Support (2) Support (3) Support (4) Do Not Support (1)	Support (0) Do Not Support (0) Acquisition with Swale (1) Other Alternative Suggestions (8)
Potential Impacts	Biological Resources (47) ² Vegetation (17) Fish and Wildlife (27) Threatened and Endangered Species (9) Water Resources (98) Floodplains/Flood Protection (58) Wetlands (5) Surface Water (32) Groundwater (4) Construction Impacts (0) Noise (0) Traffic (0) Hazardous Materials (0)	Physical Resources (31) Geology and Soils (19) Coastal Resources (12) Air Quality (0) Climate Change (2) Visual Quality and Aesthetics (1) Cultural Resources (1) Socioeconomics (56) Regional Economics (40) Environmental Justice (0) Public Health and Safety (11) Public Services and Utilities (5)

¹ Tallies represent best judgment for interpretation of supportiveness and assignment among topics. See Appendices E and F for full text of each comment.

3.3 Public Comments Related to Purpose and Need

In general, public comments regarding the purpose and need for the project discussed balancing flood reduction with habitat restoration for fish and wildlife while supporting family farms and the local economy. Approximately 11 comments related to the purpose and need, all of which reiterated the stated purpose and need. Comments also emphasized the need to reduce flood damage to agriculture and roads.

3.4 Public Comments Related to Alternatives

Most people commented on specific aspects of one or more alternatives, with five respondents expressing a preference for the SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative, four for the Hall Slough Alternative, and one for the Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative. No public comments expressed a preference for the No Action Alternative or the SFC – Initial Alternative.

Several respondents expressed concern regarding the alternatives as presented. Specific issues and suggested changes to the alternatives are listed below. Except as noted, each bulleted recommendation in the following summary was made by a single commenter.

² Subtotals do not add because Fish and Wildlife overlaps with Threatened and Endangered Species.

- Recommendation to dredge the rivers, sloughs, and Tillamook Bay to remove excessive sediment, which interferes with habitat function and economic activities. Many comments reiterated this recommendation.
- Recommendation to expand the project area to the northwest to include the north bank of the Wilson River.
- Recommendation to consider moving the levee proposed at the west side of the Beeler property to the west. Concerns were raised that the storage behind the levee is inadequate for agricultural drainage and flood storage.
- Recommendations that the project should address the lower Trask River flooding as well as the proposed project area. The project should open the upper mouth of the south fork of the lower Trask River to allow for better water movement. The project should include widening the Trask River where it meets the Tillamook River. A bypass channel should be included between the marina and KTIL radio station. As designed, the project may push more water into the Trask drainage system.
- Recommendation to reconnect Hall Slough along with pursuing the SFC Landowner Preferred Alternative.
- Recommendation to install fish passage tide gates.
- Recommendation to lower the levees from approximately 15 feet to 11 feet.
- Recommendation to protect and maintain Wilson Farm.
- Recommendation to incorporate the Shilo levee upgrade.
- Recommendation to remove the levees along Hall Slough and remove spillway and some levees on the lower end.
- Recommendation to remove the levee that affects the Blind Slough area, which would release floodwaters to Tillamook Bay and provide fish access to Blind Slough.
- Recommendation to make it mandatory that levees and ditches are maintained and waterways remain open.
- Recommendation that FEMA continually elevate the levees to protect farmland from rising elevations of the Tillamook River and install pumps on the commenter's farm to keep water levels from rising.
- Recommendation to impound water during the rainy season, which could reduce flooding. The commenter suggested that the impounded water could be used for irrigation, recreation, fire control, power generation, and to fill streams during low-water flows.
- Recommendation to minimize levee changes by adjusting height and longitudinal changes rather than removal and rebuilding of new levees.

- Concern that the SFC Landowner Preferred Alternative does not reflect earlier planning efforts.
- Concern that implementation of the SFC Landowner Preferred Alternative would cause potential negative impacts.

3.5 Public Comments Related to Potential Impacts

Over 200 comments received from the public pertained to potential impacts of the project.

3.5.1 Biological Resources

3.5.1.1 Vegetation

The 17 comments relating to vegetation stated the importance of trees and grasses as habitat for other wildlife. One comment indicated that removal of trees in the floodplain would impact bird habitats. One comment mentioned that overwintering waterfowl and geese feed on farmland grasses, and another comment indicated that removal of farming in the area would have a negative impact on bird populations. One comment suggested that decreased surface water quality and decreased groundwater quality would impact vegetation.

3.5.1.2 Fish and Wildlife

Almost 30 comments received related to fish and wildlife. Approximately 15 comments related exclusively to fish and fish habitat. Most of these comments stated a need to restore fish habitat. Several stated that fishing had declined during the past few decades, and a few comments expressed concern about the impacts of the project on local sport fishing (particularly salmon fishing). Many comments related to the perceived negative impacts of sediment on the fish population, including declining oxygen levels in the water, shallow water depths that leave fish vulnerable to heat and predators, and impaired fish passage at the mouths of the rivers. A few comments were concerned about the effects of decreased water quality (agricultural chemicals and animal waste) on fish health. One comment stated that filling the ditches as proposed would eliminate fish habitat.

Approximately nine comments were related to birds, specifically overwintering waterfowl. Some comments expressed concern about the negative impacts of removing ditches, which serve as waterfowl habitat and are essential to hunting waterfowl. Other comments expressed concern that removal of land from agriculture would reduce the presence of waterfowl, which feed on rangeland grasses. A few comments were related to the economic importance of providing a place for bird watchers and other recreational activities that benefit from improved habitat. Two comments stated that there are bald eagles in the area; other comments stated that the project area is home to red tail hawks, white tail kites, raptors, spotted owls, cormorants, ducks, and geese.

Approximately three comments related to big game, including deer and elk. One comment expressed concern that restoration of farmland would negatively impact the elk population by removing foraging areas. Several comments stated a need to improve habitat for wildlife; some comments expressed concern that the project would not improve habitat while others thought it would improve habitat.

3.5.1.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

Approximately nine comments were related specifically to threatened and endangered species habitat, with all commenting on the need for improved habitat. Two comments specifically mentioned coho habitat. The comments were divided about how best to improve salmon habitat, with several stating that dredging would be best while others stated that the project would be beneficial. Two comments suggested that the proposed project would benefit salmon habitat. Three comments suggested that the project would benefit salmon habitat if the ditches were deepened, the South Fork of the lower Trask River were opened, or progressive farming and water management techniques were used (such as what is done in Germany and the Netherlands).

3.5.2 Water Resources

3.5.2.1 Floodplains/Flood Protection

The majority of letters, emails, and comment forms received expressed concerns related to flooding, with a total of 58 individual comments related to flooding. Specifically, three comments indicated that the proposed project would reduce flooding events; nine comments suggested the project would not reduce flood risk or that flooding could not be stopped. Approximately 13 comments contended that flooding would be reduced if the sloughs, rivers, and/or Tillamook Bay were dredged to remove sediment.

Most comments mentioned the potential impacts of flooding, either based on previous flood events or concerns about future flooding. In particular, five comments called out the need for hydraulic modeling or additional research to understand flood impacts. Three comments were related to maintenance of flood protection measures. Six comments suggested ways to reduce flooding, including storing water, addressing erosion, or implementing another method. Five comments suggested changes to nearby areas/sloughs as methods to reduce flood events. Comments related to the proposed alternatives are discussed in Section 3.4.

One comment questioned whether the project meets FEMA's No-rise Certification. One comment expressed concern about floodwater flows once the project is in place, including a request to evaluate impacts when there is high tide and maximum river flows.

3.5.2.2 Wetlands

Five comments stated the importance of the natural wetland system. One comment suggested evaluating the economic importance of the wetlands, and other comments questioned if previous wetland plans or regulations were considered by this project.

3.5.2.3 Surface Water

Approximately 30 comments were received regarding surface water and surface water quality. Several comments expressed concern that the project would raise water levels and negatively impact project area farms. Approximately 13 comments recommended dredging or sediment removal to reduce flooding, improve water quality, or allow natural interaction between brackish and fresh water. One comment expressed concern that the project would increase water velocity, which could cause damage to property and life. A number of comments expressed concern about

where the diverted floodwaters would cause impacts and the extent of those impacts to property and public safety.

One comment expressed concern that antibiotics, pesticides, and chemicals used on the agricultural fields would negatively affect native fish species. One comment stated that fecal matter from waterfowl has decreased water quality in the rivers. One comment stated that sodium levels in the water would increase, which would limit grass growth.

3.5.2.4 Groundwater Resources

Three comments expressed concern that groundwater elevations would increase. Another comment expressed concern that altered groundwater levels would impact drainage in agricultural areas.

3.5.3 Physical Resources

3.5.3.1 Geology and Soils

Approximately 20 comments received were related to geology and soil impacts. Many comments stated that the farmland is a valuable resource. Two comments indicated that the project should consider the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Approximately seven comments were related to the potential project impacts on farmlands, either the negative impact of additional water/flooding or the removal of farms from production through purchase and restoration. One comment specifically asked how the project would impact the farm area between the Trask and Tillamook rivers where the Trask/Tillamook Bypass is located. Approximately 15 comments were related to sedimentation concerns.

One commenter asked about the economic impacts of altered soil productivity. One comment expressed concern about forest fires leading to erosion, which in turn, would increase sedimentation in the rivers, sloughs, and bay and increase flooding.

3.5.3.2 Coastal Resources

Approximately 12 comments were related to coastal resources. Two comments stated that the economy is negatively impacted by the lack of dredging, and five comments addressed the increased sediment in Tillamook Bay. Four comments mentioned that removal of dikes or levees would have negative impacts in Tillamook Bay by increasing sedimentation, by blocking river mouths, or by increasing sediment in the sloughs.

One comment related to the potential increase in the volume of tidal exchange conveying in adjacent waterways ("Wiley Factor"), which could cause the low tide level to increase and negatively impact agricultural lands. One comment questioned the impacts of the project in relation to the established Tsunami Plan, published by Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

3.5.3.3 Air Quality

No comments were submitted regarding air quality.

3.5.3.4 Climate Change

One comment mentioned that levees would need to be raised as ocean levels rise and sediment in the Bay increases. One comment suggested holding or damming water for potable water supply or for maintaining water levels during periods of drought.

3.5.3.5 Visual Quality and Aesthetics

One comment expressed a desire to improve the visual qualities of the sloughs, which are presently considered to be unsightly.

3.5.4 Cultural Resources

One commenter remarked that the levees, which were built with dredge spoils, contain cultural resources.

3.5.5 Socioeconomics

3.5.5.1 Regional Economics

Approximately 40 comments were related to economics or agricultural practices. Seven comments expressed concern that the potential project cost of the SFC – Landowner Preferred Alternative is too high, and several comments suggested that the project's benefits do not outweigh the costs. Seven comments were related to the economic impacts of flooding events, with four comments outlining past flood events that caused negative economic impacts. Two comments expressed concern about the purchasing of private property, and another comment questioned how the project would impact property values. Two comments requested additional clarification about future building restrictions along U.S. Highway 101.

Five comments mentioned that the area could be or currently is used for recreational and tourist activities (including hiking, hunting, and fishing).

3.5.5.2 Environmental Justice

No comments were submitted regarding environmental justice concerns.

3.5.5.3 Public Health and Safety

Approximately 10 comments related to public health and safety concerns. One comment stated that public safety should be a top priority for this project. Two commenters stated that they rely on their neighbors for help during flooding events; one commenter expressed concern that they would be isolated due to other farms being purchased for this project. Four comments questioned who would be liable if this project does not work, and three asked if maintenance would be needed or planned for the future to maintain access to homes during floods.

3.5.5.4 Public Services and Utilities

Five comments expressed concern about roads and bridges during flooding events. One comment expressed concern that Goodspeed Road and the bridge over Hall Slough would not be able to

handle truck traffic during project construction. One comment suggested that the bridge structure at Blind Slough be retained.

3.5.6 Construction Impacts

3.5.6.1 Noise

No comments were submitted regarding potential noise impacts.

3.5.6.2 Traffic

No comments were submitted regarding potential traffic impacts.

3.5.6.3 Hazardous Materials

No comments were submitted regarding potential impacts from hazardous materials.

3.6 Comments Submitted by Federal, State, and Other Agencies

Representatives from five government agencies submitted comments during the scoping period, and one submitted a comment card at the agency scoping meeting. There were two comments from federal agencies, one comment from a state agency, and two comments from local agencies.

Most of the comment topics mentioned by agency representatives are included in the public comments discussed in the previous sections. However, some of the agency comments presented unique issues, including requests to ensure compliance with government-mandated policies and regulations, and guidance for ensuring that permits for the project can be obtained. The agency comments are summarized in the following sections, and the full text of agency comments is provided in Appendix F. The agencies' concerns will be addressed through the Draft EIS analyses and through ongoing coordination with FEMA.

3.6.1 Comments Submitted by Federal Agencies

EPA provided comments on the proposed action, stating that the agency supports restoring natural processes for aquatic, wetland, and water quality restoration as well as climate change resiliency and flood risk reduction. The substantive points included:

- EPA reviewed the NOI in accordance with responsibilities under NEPA and the Clean Air Act.
- EPA is interested in Tillamook as an estuary of national significance and approval of the Tillamook Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) as a long-term, comprehensive, basin-wide vision for performance-based management under the EPA's National Estuary Program.
- EPA supports restoring natural processes, particularly where there may be a dual benefit such as flood risk reduction. The SFC proposed action appears consistent with the January 2014 SFC Effectiveness Monitoring Plan.

- EPA supports re-establishing natural hydrological processes that would allow reestablishment of ecosystem structures, processes, and functions.
- Re-establishing natural hydrologic process would support juvenile salmonids.
- Re-establishing natural hydrologic process would support sediment detention, production of organic matter, and habitat suitable formative plant communities.
- Restoring natural hydrologic process would reduce flood damage to property and roads, as well as decrease repetitive flooding, caused by loss of floodplain function and stream complexity.
- EPA agrees with Tillamook County's February 2013 application for federal assistance that dike breaching would allow greater natural exchange of water between the Trask River and Hoquarten Slough to improve dissolved oxygen levels in the slough.
- Removing levees that currently isolate the project area has the potential to facilitate natural marsh accretion and allow the site to keep pace with sea-level rise, fostering species' resilience and adaptability.
- The emphasis on flood risk reduction and environmental benefits is consistent with the 1999 Tillamook Bay CCMP, which calls for protection and restoration of 750 acres of wetlands.
- The proposed action would address the majority of the Tillamook Bay CCMP
 commitments and meet the nine actions aimed at protecting and enhancing wetlands,
 removing salmon migration barriers, reconnecting sloughs and rivers, and improving
 sediment storage and routing.
- Long-term monitoring and adaptive management will be an important component of ensuring that the project goals are met.
- The January 2014 SFC Effectiveness Monitoring Plan is a useful start in monitoring and management.
- Provide stakeholders and agencies an opportunity to help develop long-term monitoring and adaptive management planning by including a detailed draft monitoring and adaptive management plan in the Draft EIS.

The U.S. Forest Service provided an email stating that they received information about the SFC project and will evaluate their continued participation with this project.

3.6.2 Comments Submitted by State Agencies

The Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) submitted an email comment stating that they are the primary owner of tidelands in Tillamook Bay. The comment stated that authorization from Oregon DSL would be needed for work on the removal, upgrade, or construction of tidegates, and for placement of fill and construction of levees. If the work would occur below the mean high tide elevation, access authorization from the Department of State Lands – Land

Management Division would be needed. Also, since the state is the owner of the bed and banks of the tidal channels, any placement of structures in, under, or over these channels would require an authorization. Any restoration work that is to be permanent within these channels would require a conservation easement.

3.6.3 Comments Submitted by Local Agencies

The Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District provided a comment stating that they do not support the proposed action. The district is concerned that projects implemented to reduce flooding should include sediment removal from the sloughs running through and adjacent to the project area to produce an adequate amount of flow. The district added that the current flood protection system in place is working adequately well. Representatives outlined questions and concerns to consider in the EIS (listed below).

- Identify the soil types being affected and their economic values.
- Identify the funding mechanisms for project operations and maintenance and how they would be sustained over the expected life of the project.
- There should be an operations and maintenance plan in place identifying the overall maintenance costs for the short and long terms.
- Any potential cost overruns from the project should have identified and secured funding.
- The new dikes designed to pass overtopping floodwaters would be prone to erosion.
- Have the benefits of the Wilson/Trask and Tone Road Spillway Projects that addressed the need to reduce the height and duration of nuisance flooding been modeled into the SFC project?
- Would the project have a negative effect on the lower Trask River and adjacent agricultural drainages?
- Would the storage behind the Beeler/Jones levee be adequate?
- Would there be increased water delivery from the lower Wilson River to the south? What effect would the project have on drainage of the Trask and Tillamook rivers?

The Stillwell Drainage District commented on concerns that the proposed action would have a negative effect on their ability to minimize flood impacts to their district as well as their ability to reduce flooding occurrences. They support the No Action Alternative. They provided several concerns regarding the proposed action.

- Concern that the alternatives would increase flood damage and decrease life safety within the Stillwell Drainage District.
- Because of the large number of cattle, feed, and buildings located within the Stillwell Drainage District, they ask that special attention be given to impacts from the proposed action to their District. The District also holds the local radio station, which dispenses

information during an emergency. The District includes Oregon Route 131, which links Oceanside, Netarts, and Cape Mears to medical and emergency facilities during flooding events.

- The District's levee has been effective in preventing flooding to date. The District is concerned that the proposed action would increase the water level in the District.
- The proposed action would release water close to the District (rather than into the bay closer to the mouth of the river) and would therefore require the District to increase the height of their levee.
- The proposed action would increase water levels in the basin, which would require the District to install larger lift pumps to remove water from within the district levee. The increased water in the basin will also slow the opening of the tidegates, which currently allow a large percentage of the water to escape.
- Because of the proposed action, the river side of the tidegates would need to be cleaned to increase flow rates when the gates reach a point when they function.
- The Prosed Action would change flow patterns and increase flow rates, which would impact the levee, particularly where the levee does not have rip-rap.
- All work on the SFC would need to be performed with oversight by and in accordance with USACE standards.
- Any property owners impacted by the SFC should be fully compensated.

SECTION 4 Next Steps: Development of the Draft EIS

4.1 Introduction

All comments received as part of the NEPA scoping process that fall within the scope of the NEPA process will be addressed in the Draft EIS. FEMA will also continue to work closely with agencies and stakeholder groups to address issues identified through scoping. The Draft EIS will be made available for public review and comment.

4.2 Comments Related to Purpose and Need

Most of the comments related to the stated purpose and need of the project were restatements of the existing statement of purpose and need. The Draft EIS will clarify the purpose and need statement in response to these comments. In addition, FEMA and the cooperating agencies may continue to refine the purpose and need statement to clarify the decision-making process.

4.3 Comments Related to Alternatives

Most of the comments received did not specifically state a preference or objection to the alternatives. Comments that included specific preferences also provide insight into potential impacts or benefits of the alternatives, which will be helpful in evaluating the environmental consequences in the Draft EIS.

Some comments expressed a preference for flood reduction approaches that are not currently proposed for consideration in the Draft EIS. Specifically, approximately 15 comments addressed sediment removal or dredging in the sloughs, rivers, and Tillamook Bay to increase conveyance of floodwaters. Dredging has previously been evaluated as a potential solution to the flooding problems in this area; model analysis of dredging showed that it would not have as great of an impact on flood levels as increasing the width of the channels. Dredging also would be localized in its effects and is not expected to provide habitat benefits. Dredging would require funding for channel maintenance over the life of the project. Dredging as a potential alternative will be discussed in further detail in the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS will summarize the project alternatives that were considered but eliminated from detailed evaluation and explain why they were eliminated. Additional or revised alternatives may be developed based on comments received. Alternatives that do not meet the project purpose and need will not be evaluated further.

4.4 Comments Related to Potential Impacts

Commenters discussed a range of potential impacts though the majority touched upon several major themes. The major issues and potential analysis to be completed in the Draft EIS are summarized in the following bullets.

• **Fish, wildlife, and vegetation impacts:** some comments expressed concern that the project would increase impacts while others felt that the project would restore habitat and reduce negative impacts. The benefits and potential impacts of the proposed project on biological resources (including fish, wildlife, vegetation, as well as threatened and

endangered species) will be analyzed; results will be presented in the Draft EIS. In addition, compliance with the Endangered Species Act and other federal wildlife protection laws will be evaluated through consultation with the appropriate agencies.

- Water level impacts of the alternatives, including increased flood levels at neighboring properties. The benefits and potential impacts of the proposed action on water resources (including floodplains, flood protection, wetlands, surface water, and groundwater) will be analyzed; results will be presented in the Draft EIS. Hydraulic models that evaluate potential effects of the various alternatives on flood elevations across the floodplain will be reviewed for each alternative.
- Sediment issues related to forest management and lack of dredging of the sloughs, rivers, and Tillamook Bay. The benefits and potential impacts of the proposed action on physical resources (including sedimentation, geology and soils, coastal resources, climate change, and visual impacts) will be analyzed for each alternative; results will be presented in the Draft EIS.
- Impacts to the local economy through potential future flooding events and through unintended negative impacts associated with the project, particularly negative impacts to the agricultural land. The benefits and potential impacts of each alternative on socioeconomic resources (including regional economics and agriculture, public health and safety, and public services and utilities) will be analyzed; results will be presented in the Draft EIS.

Several commenters expressed concerns that the proposed action would not provide (1) flood reduction benefits greater than the system that is in place now, (2) enough flood reduction benefits to justify the project costs, or (3) as many beneficial outcomes as proposed. As part of the Draft EIS analysis, the hydraulic model will be peer reviewed to confirm results and provide confidence in the anticipated flood reduction benefits of the proposed action. Results will be summarized in the Draft EIS.

Many commenters demonstrated an awareness of the interconnected nature of Tillamook wetlands and floodplains and the potential effects of levee removal and ditch filling on water movement into and through sloughs and drainage districts in the area. Some comments expressed concern over hydrologic evaluations, including the need for additional study through hydraulic modeling, the previous planning efforts to be considered in the proposed action, long term maintenance costs and operational responsibilities, and how the project uncertainties will be handled. Potential impacts or benefits of alternatives identified by commenters will be analyzed in the Draft EIS.

Appendix A Notice of Intent

Neurosciences, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2014.

Carolyn Baum,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2014-10297 Filed 5-5-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Nursing Research; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Nursing Research Initial Review Group.

Date: June 2-3, 2014.

Time: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue. Bethesda. MD 20814.

Contact Person: Weiqun Li, MD, Scientific Review Officer, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Blvd. Suite 703, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–5966, wli@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Nursing Research Special Emphasis Panel; Enhancing Sustainability and Building the Science of Palliative Care.

Date: June 4, 2014.

Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott Suites, 6711 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: Tamizchelvi Thyagarajan, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 703, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–0343, tamizchelvi.thyagarajan@nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.361, Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2014.

Michelle Trout,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2014–10300 Filed 5–5–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA-2014-0014]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Flow Corridor Flood Reduction and Habitat Restoration Project, Tillamook County, Oregon

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with other Federal agencies, intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) evaluating the environmental impacts associated with funding activities to reduce flood impacts and to restore habitat for fish and wildlife within Tillamook County, Oregon. FEMA intends to provide funding for the project, known as the Southern Flow Corridor project, to the Port of Tillamook Bay (Applicant) through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Other funding for the project comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center, State of Oregon lottery funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Tillamook County. Other public and private entities may also provide funding to support the Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region X, 130 228th Street SW., Bothell, WA 98021, phone: 425–487–4735, email: mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with other Federal agencies, intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) evaluating the environmental impacts associated with funding activities to reduce flood impacts and to restore habitat for fish and wildlife within Tillamook County, Oregon. FEMA intends to provide funding for the project, known as the Southern Flow

Corridor project, to the Port of Tillamook Bay (Applicant) through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Other funding for the project comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center, State of Oregon lottery funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Tillamook County. Other public and private entities may also provide funding to support the Project.

Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, and FEMA's Environmental Considerations regulations require the preparation of an EIS for major Federal actions that would have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. The CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1501.7 require the issuance of a notice of intent to prepare an EIS prior to initiating the scoping process. Scoping is an early and open process that assists the Federal action agency in determining the scope of issues to be addressed and in identifying significant issues related to a proposed action.

FEMA received a Public Assistance application from the Port of Tillamook Bay for the Southern Flow Corridor (Project) as an alternate project to the repairs of its rail line that was damaged during flooding and severe storms in December, 2007. FEMA's proposed action is to provide funding for the Project; this funding is authorized under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended.

The development of the Project by the Applicant originated through an initiative of the Oregon Solutions Program, which is a program launched by the Governor's office after passage of the Oregon Sustainability Act in 2001. This initiative brought together Federal, State, and local government agencies to identify strategies for implementing flood control measures and ecosystem restoration actions within the Tillamook Bay watershed. The Oregon Solutions team identified, evaluated, and prioritized projects. Multiple alternatives were considered along with multiple funding sources. The proposed Project is the outcome of this effort. More information can be found at: http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/ Documents/Misc/White%20Paper.pdf. This report includes a graphical depiction of constructed elements, alternatives considered by the Applicant prior to the development of the

Southern Flow Corridor project, previous public outreach and involvement efforts, and a history of efforts since the late 1990s to address flooding and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay watershed.

The Applicant's goal for the Project is to restore flood flow pathways from the Wilson River to Tillamook Bay. Implementation of the Project will result in flood level reductions across the lower Wilson River floodplain and to a lesser degree on the lower Trask and Tillamook Rivers. The Project is intended to reduce the flood levels to more natural levels over a wide range of flood magnitudes, but it will not reduce the frequency of flooding, which is controlled by flows and bank elevations upstream. Another goal of the Project is to restore ecological function and habitat for salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act and for other fish and wildlife.

The Project proposes to accomplish these goals by removing existing levees and fills to restore tidal marsh, and creating new setback tidal dikes to protect adjacent private lands. Key preliminary project elements include: (1) Levee, Fill, and Structure Removal: Remove approximately 6.9 miles of existing levee, 2.1 miles of road, 4 structures, and lower 2.1 miles of levee within the flow corridor to provide increased flood conveyance and allow the natural processes to restore ecosystem functions and habitat in the project area (total fill removal is estimated at 85,000 cubic yards); (2) New Tidal Setback and Upgraded Levees: Approximately 1.4 miles of new tidal setback levee will be constructed and up to 2.3 miles of existing levee adjusted to design grade (lowered or raised), and strengthened in order to improve flood conveyance and protect adjacent agricultural lands from tidal influence in the project area; (3) New Floodgates: A series of floodgates will be incorporated in the new levee in order to replace the existing gates slated for removal. Some of the existing floodgates may be recycled and re-used in the new levee system; (4) Hall Slough Elements: Additional flood reduction elements include improving the hydraulic connectivity between Hall and Blind Sloughs through removal of the Fuhrman Road berm and constructing an approximate 1,000-footlong Hall Slough—Blind Slough connector channel; (5) Drainage Network Improvements: Improvements to the existing drainage ditches inside the new levee will be made as necessary to connect them to the new floodgates and ensure that equal or better drainage is maintained once the project is

implemented. In addition, over 3 miles of drainage ditches will be filled to restore a natural drainage regime and improve habitat conditions; (6) Habitat Restoration Elements: The project elements described above are anticipated to result in full tidal inundation of 521 acres of restored marsh and wetland fringe habitat. In addition, the project would include extensive placement of large wood habitat features and reconnection of high-quality tidal channel habitat by constructing new channels, which are expected to naturally expand in total length to approximately 14 miles; and (7) Property Acquisition: The majority of the project area is already held in public ownership (398 acres), but acquisition of additional acres in private ownership is required. In addition. permanent flood easements and temporary construction easements may be required to maintain post-project floodplain functions and for proposed modifications of existing levees and removal of some dredge spoils on lands not required for acquisition.

The EIS scoping process will utilize and build upon the previous efforts of the Oregon Solutions team. To further scope the Project, FEMA will be soliciting public input to help identify and refine Project alternatives and significant issues for evaluation in the EIS. Outreach for the scoping process will include a public notice in local and regional media, direct mailing to interested parties, and a public scoping meeting. Federal, State and local agencies, Indian tribes, interested organizations and individuals will be asked to comment on the scope of issues, alternatives and their potential impacts. This outreach effort is planned for the spring of 2014 in Tillamook County. The specific date, time, and location for the public meeting will be provided with the public notice. A similar approach is planned for release of the Draft EIS.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4331 *et seq.*; 40 CFR part 1500; 44 CFR part 10.

W. Craig Fugate,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2014–10331 Filed 5–5–14; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 9111–A6–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2014-N074: FXES11120400000-145-FF04EF2000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan and Associated Documents; Charlotte County, Florida

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment/information.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of an incidental take permit (ITP) application and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Troy Powell (applicant) requests an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The applicant anticipates taking about 1.0 acre of foraging, breeding, and sheltering habitat used by the Florida scrub-jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens) (scrub-jay) incidental to land preparation and for the construction of a single-family residence, barn, and associated infrastructure in Charlotte County, Florida. The applicant's HCP describes the minimization and mitigation measures proposed to address the effects of the project on the scrub-jay. **DATES:** Written comments on the ITP application and HCP should be sent to the South Florida Ecological Services Office (see ADDRESSES) and should be received on or before June 5, 2014.

ADDRESSES: See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for information on how to submit your comments on the ITP application and HCP. You may obtain a copy of the ITP application and HCP by writing the South Florida Ecological Services Office, Attn: Permit number TE31192B–0, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960–3559. In addition, we will make the ITP application and HCP available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brian Powell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, South Florida Ecological Services Office (see ADDRESSES); telephone: 772–469 –4315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Submitting Comments

If you wish to comment on the ITP application and HCP, you may submit

Appendix B

Agency Scoping Meeting Materials

Agencies Notified of Scoping
Invitation Letters to Agencies
Invitation Email to Agencies
Invitation Reminder Email to Agencies
Agency Scoping Meeting Sign-in Sheet
Agency Scoping Presentation
Agency Scoping Meeting Notes

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Agency Contact List

Name	Entity	Association/Title	Address	City	State	ZIP Code	Email
ederal							
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enny Pritzker	Department of Commerce	Secretary	1401 Constitution Avenue NW	Washington	D.C.	20230	TheSec@doc.gov
isa Schwartz	Department of Commerce Department of Energy	Director	625 Marion Street NE	Salem	OR	97301-3737	lisa.c.schwartz@state.or.us
hillip Ditzler	Federal Highway Administration	Division Administrator	530 Center Street NE, Suite 420	Salem	OR	97301-3737	phillip.ditzler@dot.gov
			,		WA	98104-1000	
Bill Block	Federal Housing and Urban Development, Region X	Regional Administrator	Seattle Federal Office Building, 909 First Avenue, Suite 200	Seattle	VVA	98104-1000	WA_Webmanager@hud.gov
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Vill Stelle	National Marine Fisheries Service	Regional Administrator, West Coast Region	7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Bldg 1	Seattle	WA	98115-0070	Will.Stelle@noaa.gov
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Oonald McIsaac	Pacific Fishery Management Council	Executive Director	7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101	Portland	OR	97220-1384	pfmc.comments@noaa.gov
Aichael Turaski	US Army Corps of Engineers	Branch Chief	Portland District, PO Box 2946	Portland	OR	97208-2946	michael.r.turaski@usace.army.mil
DML Richard T. Gromlich	US Coast Guard	Thirteenth Coast Guard District	Jackson Federal Building, 915 Second Avenue	Seattle	WA	98174-1067	michaelitarasni@asace.army.iiiii
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	Conservation Service Oregon						-
nthony Barber	US Environmental Protection Agency	Director	805 SW Broadway, Suite 500	Portland	OR	97205	Barber.Anthony@epamail.epa.gov
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ames D. Crammond	US Geological Survey	Center Director	Oregon Water Science Center, 2130 SW 5th Avenue	Portland	OR	97201	crammond@usgs.gov
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Tribes							
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State							
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atty Snow	Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development/ Coastal Zone Management Program	OCMP Manager	635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150	Salem	OR	97301	patty.snow@state.or.us
arrie Landrum	Oregon Department of State Lands	Resource Coordinator	775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100	Salem	OR	97301	carrie.landrum@dsl.state.or.us
arry McKinley	Oregon Department of Transportation	Area Manager District 1, ODOT	350 West Marine Dr	Astoria	OR	97103	larry.mckinley@odot.state.or.us
ulie Slevin	Oregon Office of Emergency Management	Region 2 State Public Assistance Officer	PO Box 14370	Salem	OR	97309	julie.slevin@oem.state.or.us
			725 Summer Street NE, Suite C		OR	97301-1290	
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isa Van Laanen	Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department	Director	725 Summer Street NE, Suite C	Salem	OR	97301	park.info@state.or.us
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.ocal							
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Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Agency Contact List

Name	Entity	Association/Title	Address	City	State	ZIP Code	Email
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Mark Eberlein	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Regional Environmental Officer, Region X	130 - 228th St SW	Bothell	WA	98021-9796	mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov
Science Kilner	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Deputy Regional Environmental	130 - 228th St SW	Bothell	WA	98021-9796	science.kilner@fema.dhs.gov
-		Officer, Region X					
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Annie Birnie	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Natural Resource Specialist	1201 NE Lloyd Blvd. Suite 1100	Portland	OR	97232	annie.birnie@noaa.gov
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		Division					
Amy Horstman	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Partners for Fish and Widlife Program	1211 SE Cardinal Court, Suite 100	Vancouver	WA	98683	amy.horstman@fws.gov
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	· •	•	•				
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Tribes							
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Christine Shirley	Development	Specialist	Capitor St. NE, Suite 150	Jaiem	OK	37301	christine.simicy@state.or.us
Lori Warner-Dickason	Oregon Department of State Lands	Northern Region Manager, Removal	775 Summer St. NE	Salem	OR	97301	Lori.Warner-Dickason@state.or.us
Zon Warner Brekason	oregon Department of State Lands	Fill Permits	775 Summer St. NE	Suicin		37301	2011 Warrier Brokason & State Formas
Miriam Hulst	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Acquisitions Specialist	775 Summer St NE, Ste 360	Salem	OR	97301-1290	miriam.hulst@oweb.state.or.us
Ken Fetcho	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Effectiveness Monitoring Specialist	775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360	Salem	OR	97301	ken.fetcho@state.or.us
Greg Sieglitz	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Monitoring and Reporting Program	775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360	Salem	OR	97301	greg.sieglitz@state.or.us
		Manager					
Local							
Suzanne Weber	City of Tillamook	Mayor	210 Laurel Ave.	Tillamook	OR	97141	sweber@tillamookor.gov
Aaron Palter	Port of Tillamook Bay	Project Coordinator	4000 Blimp Blvd. Suite 100	Tillamook	OR	97141	apalter@potb.org, ajpdla@embargmail.com
Deb Clark	Tillamook County	Treasurer	201 Laurel Avenue	Tillamook	OR	97141	dclark@co.tillamook.or.us
Diane Powers	Tillamook County Tillamook County	Treasurer's Office, Grant Files	201 Laurel Avenue	Tillamook	OR	97141	dpowers@co.tillamook.or.us
	·	·					•
Gordon McCraw	Tillamook County	Emergency Management Director	5995 Long Prairie Rd	Tillamook	OR	97141	gmccraw@co.tillamook.or.us
Mark Labhart	Tillamook County	Board of County Commissioners	201 Laurel Avenue	Tillamook	OR	97141	mlabhart@co.tillamook.or.us
Chuck Hurliman	Tillamook County		201 Laurel Avenue	Tillamook	OR	97141	hurlimanchucksue@yahoo.com
Bryan Pohl	Tillamook County	Community Development	1510 3rd St. Suite B	Tillamook	OR	97143	bpohl@co.tillamook.or.us
John Boyd							jboyd@co.tillamook.or.us



May 12, 2014

Kim Titus District Manager, Salem Office, Bureau of Land Management 1717 Fabry Rd. SE Salem, Oregon 97306

Dear District Manager Titus:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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District Manager Titus May 12, 2014 Page 2

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In addition to participation in the scoping meeting, your agency may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by June 13, 2014. If we do not hear from you within this time period, we will assume your agency has no comments at this time. Your agency will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft EIS once complete.

If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Penny Pritzger Secretary, Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Ms. Pritzger:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Pritzger May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Lisa Schwartz Director, Department of Energy 625 Marion St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301-3737

Dear Ms. Schwartz:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Schwartz May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely.

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Phillip Ditzler
Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
Federal Highway Administration
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Ditzler May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Bill Block Regional Administrator, Federal Housing and Urban Development, Region X Seattle Federal Office Building 909 First Avenue, Suite 200 Seattle, Washington 98104-1000

Dear Mr. Block:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Block May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely.

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Dick T. Clairmont Region 8 Administrator, Federal Rail Administration 500 Broadway, Suite 240 Vancouver, Washington 98660

Dear Mr. Clairmont:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Clairmont May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Will Stelle Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, National Marine Fisheries Service 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Bldg 1 Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

Dear Mr. Stelle:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Stelle May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Christine Lehnertz Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service 333 Bush Street, Suite 500 San Francisco, California 94104-2828

Dear Ms. Lehnertz:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Lehnertz May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Donald McIsaac Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Dear Mr. McIsaac:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. McIsaac May 12, 2014 Page 2

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In addition to participation in the scoping meeting, your agency may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

• Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

· Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by June 13, 2014. If we do not hear from you within this time period, we will assume your agency has no comments at this time. Your agency will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft EIS once complete.

If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer Federal Emergency Management Agency



May 12, 2014

Michael Turaski Branch Chief, US Army Corps of Engineers Portland District P.O. Box 2946 Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

Dear Mr. Turaski:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Turaski May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Rear Admiral Richard T. Gromlich District Thirteen Command Center Thirteenth Coast Guard District, US Coast Guard Jackson Federal Bldg 915 Second Avenue Seattle, Washington 98174-1067

Dear Admiral Gromlich:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Admiral Gromlich May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Ron Alvarado
State Conservationist, US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Oregon
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd, Suite 900
Portland, Oregon 97232

Dear Mr. Alvarado:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Alvarado May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Anthony Barber Director, US Environmental Protection Agency 805 SW Broadway, Suite 500 Portland, Oregon 97205

Dear Mr. Barber:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Barber May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer Federal Emergency Management Agency



May 12, 2014

Theo Mbabaliye, Ph.D.
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 6th Avenue, Ste 900, ETPA-202-3
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

Dear Dr. Mbabaliye:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Dr. Mbabaliye May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely.

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Kent Connaughton Regional Forester, US Forest Service, Region 6 PO Box 3623 Portland, Oregon 97208-3623

Dear Mr. Connaughton:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Connaughton May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

James D. Crammond Center Director, US Geological Survey Oregon Water Science Center 2130 SW 5th Ave Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Crammond:

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Mr. Crammond May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Mark Ellsworth Regional Coordinator, Governor's Office Regional Solutions Center, 4301 3rd St Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Ellsworth:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Ellsworth May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Dennie Houle Business Development Officer, Oregon Business Development Department Regional Solutions Center 4301 3rd St Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Houle:

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Mr. Houle May 12, 2014 Page 2

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If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Katy Coba Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture 635 Capitol St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301-2532

Dear Ms. Coba:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Coba May 12, 2014 Page 2

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In addition to participation in the scoping meeting, your agency may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

• Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Jennifer Purcell Regional Solutions Liaison, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Regional Solutions Center 4301 3rd St Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Ms. Purcell:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Purcell May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Steve Mrazik
Technical Solutions Manager, Water Quality Program, Oregon Department of Environmental
Quality
2020 SW 4th Ave., Suite 400
Portland, Oregon 97201-4987

Dear Mr. Mrazik:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Mrazik May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Kim Jones Program Manager, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 28655 Hwy 34 Corvallis, Oregon 97333

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Jones May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Dan Goody District Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry 5005 3rd Street Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Goody:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Goody May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Patrick Wingard
Tillamook Regional Representative, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
4301 Third St., Room 206
Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Wingard:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Wingard May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Carrie Landrum Resource Coordinator, Oregon Department of State Lands 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100 Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Ms. Landrum:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Landrum May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Larry McKinley Area Manager District 1, ODOT Region 2, Oregon Department of Transportation 350 W. Marine Dr Astoria, Oregon 97103

Dear Mr. McKinley:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. McKinley May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Julie Slevin
State Public Assistance Officer, Oregon Office of Emergency Management
P.O. Box 14370
Salem, Oregon 97309

Dear Ms. Slevin:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Slevin May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer Federal Emergency Management Agency



May 12, 2014

Roger Roper
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
725 Summer St NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301-1290

Dear Mr. Roper:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

The Southern Flow Corridor Project's purpose is to reduce life safety risk from floods, reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally-listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. The proposed action – the Landowner Preferred Alternative - would accomplish this by removing and modifying levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area, restoring wetlands, and constructing new levees to protect some agricultural lands.

The EIS will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, agriculture, economic development, water quality, and wetlands. Both the public and agencies will be invited to participate in the scoping process between May 14 and June 13, 2014, and to review the draft EIS upon completion, expected in early 2015.

Your agency has been identified by FEMA as one that may have an interest in this project or the project area. The selected alternative and subsequent project construction may have important implications for surrounding residential communities, businesses, natural areas, wetlands, floodplains, and fish and wildlife. As a result, FEMA is requesting your input and agency's expertise to assist in the scoping and preparation of the EIS as required by NEPA. The agency scoping meeting will be held on:

Mr. Roper May 12, 2014 Page 2

If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you may also participate in the agency scoping meeting via a conference call. If you or your staff would like to participate via web meeting, please RSVP with email addresses so that we can send you the meeting link and call-in information.

You may also attend the public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall, 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook, Oregon 97141. Information about the project can be found at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org.

In addition to participation in the scoping meeting, your agency may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by June 13, 2014. If we do not hear from you within this time period, we will assume your agency has no comments at this time. Your agency will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft EIS once complete.

If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Lisa Van Laanen Director, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department 725 Summer St. N.E. Suite C Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Ms. Van Laanen:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Van Laanen May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Meta Loftsgaarden Deputy Director, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360 Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Ms. Loftsgaarden:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Loftsgaarden May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb



May 12, 2014

Paul Wyntergreen City Manager, City of Tillamook 210 Laurel Ave. Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Wyntergreen:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Wyntergreen May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer Federal Emergency Management Agency



May 12, 2014

Michele Bradley Director, Port of Tillamook Bay 4000 Blimp Blvd. Suite 100 Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Ms. Bradley:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Ms. Bradley May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer



May 12, 2014

Paul Levesque Chief of Staff, Tillamook County 201 Laurel Avenue Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Mr. Levesque:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Mr. Levesque May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Region X 130 228th Street, SW Bothell, WA 98021-9796



May 12, 2014

Rudy Fenk Chair, Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District 4000 Blimp Blvd, Suite 200 Tillamook, Oregon 97141

Dear Chair Fenk:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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 Wednesday, May 28, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201 Chair Fenk May 12, 2014 Page 2

If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you may also participate in the agency scoping meeting via a conference call. If you or your staff would like to participate via web meeting, please RSVP with email addresses so that we can send you the meeting link and call-in information.

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency



May 12, 2014

Honorable Reyn Leno Chair, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 9615 Grand Ronde Road Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347

Dear Chair Leno:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. The Tribe is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Chair Leno May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

SK:bb

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Region X 130 228th Street, SW Bothell, WA 98021-9796



May 12, 2014

Honorable A. Diane Collier Chairman, Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes P.O. Box 190 Seaside, Oregon 97138

Dear Chairman Collier:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. The Tribe is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

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Chairman Collier May 12, 2014 Page 2

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Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

SK:bb



May 12, 2014

Honorable Delores Pigsley Chairman, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon 1322 N. Larchwood Salem, Oregon 97303

Dear Chairman Pigsley:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. The Tribe is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

The Southern Flow Corridor Project's purpose is to reduce life safety risk from floods, reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally-listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. The proposed action – the Landowner Preferred Alternative - would accomplish this by removing and modifying levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area, restoring wetlands, and constructing new levees to protect some agricultural lands.

The EIS will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, agriculture, economic development, water quality, and wetlands. The public, Tribes, and agencies will be invited to participate in the scoping process between May 14 and June 13, 2014 and to review the draft EIS upon completion, expected in early 2015.

The Tribe has been identified by FEMA as one that may have an interest in this project or the project area. The selected alternative and subsequent project construction may have important implications for surrounding residential communities, businesses, Tribal interests, natural areas, wetlands, floodplains, and fish and wildlife. As a result, FEMA is requesting your input and expertise to assist in the scoping and preparation of the EIS as required by NEPA. An agency scoping meeting will be held on:

 Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL Building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201

If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you may also participate in the agency scoping meeting via a conference call. If you or your staff would like to participate via web meeting, please RSVP with email addresses so that we can send you the meeting link and call-in information. You may also attend the public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from

Chairman Pigsley May 12, 2014 Page 2

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall, 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook, OR 97141. If neither of these meeting options is amenable, please contact me and we can make alternate arrangements. Information about the project can be found at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org.

In addition to participation in either scoping meeting, the Tribe may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

• Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by June 13, 2014. If we do not hear from you within this time period, we will assume the Tribe has no comments at this time. The Tribe will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft EIS, once complete.

If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark.eberlein@fema.dhs.gov

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

SK:bb

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Region X 130 228th Street, SW Bothell, WA 98021-9796



May 12, 2014

Patty Snow
OCMP Manager, Oregon Department of Land Conservation
and Development/Coastal Zone Management Program
635 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150
Salem, Oregon 97301-2540

Dear Ms. Snow:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and State and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared. Your agency is invited to attend an agency scoping meeting to provide comments and input to assist FEMA with development of the EIS under NEPA.

The Southern Flow Corridor Project's purpose is to reduce life safety risk from floods, reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally-listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. The proposed action – the Landowner Preferred Alternative - would accomplish this by removing and modifying levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area, restoring wetlands, and constructing new levees to protect some agricultural lands.

The EIS will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, agriculture, economic development, water quality, and wetlands. Both the public and agencies will be invited to participate in the scoping process between May 14 and June 13, 2014, and to review the draft EIS upon completion, expected in early 2015.

Your agency has been identified by FEMA as one that may have an interest in this project or the project area. The selected alternative and subsequent project construction may have important implications for surrounding residential communities, businesses, natural areas, wetlands, floodplains, and fish and wildlife. As a result, FEMA is requesting your input and agency's expertise to assist in the scoping and preparation of the EIS as required by NEPA. The agency scoping meeting will be held on:

 Wednesday, May 28, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201 Ms. Snow May 12, 2014 Page 2

If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you may also participate in the agency scoping meeting via a conference call. If you or your staff would like to participate via web meeting, please RSVP with email addresses so that we can send you the meeting link and call-in information.

You may also attend the public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall, 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook, Oregon 97141. Information about the project can be found at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org,

In addition to participation in the scoping meeting, your agency may also submit comments via mail, email, or fax with attention to Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer.

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

• Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by June 13, 2014. If we do not hear from you within this time period, we will assume your agency has no comments at this time. Your agency will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft EIS once complete.

If you have any questions regarding this invitation please contact me at (425) 487-4735 or via email at mark,eberlein@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eberlein

Regional Environmental Officer

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BK:bb

From: <u>FEMA-SFC-EIS</u>
To: <u>FEMA-SFC-EIS</u>

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project - EIS Scoping Agency Meeting Invitation

Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 7:10:32 AM
Attachments: NOI Federal Register Notice 5-6-14.pdf

Hello – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is pleased to invite you to an agency scoping meeting on the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A copy of FEMA's *Federal Register* Notice of Intent is attached. Your agency's administration has been notified via a formal letter, and we are also notifying you based on your interest, past or potential involvement with the project.

The agency scoping meeting will be held on:

- Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201
- The meeting will also be accessible via a conference call/web meeting (please RSVP for web link and call in information).

You may also attend the public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall, 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook, OR 97141. Information on the public scoping meeting can be found at www.SouthernFlowElS.org.

The scoping comment period will extend until June 13, 2014. Comments may be submitted via:

 Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer, 130 – 228th Street SW, Bothell, WA 98021

• Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

• Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

FEMA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Oregon, and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. The Southern Flow Corridor Project's purpose is to reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods and reduce life safety risk from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. The proposed action – the Landowner Preferred Alternative - would accomplish this by removing and modifying levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area, restoring wetlands, and constructing new levees to protect some agricultural lands.

The EIS will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, agriculture, economic development, water quality, and wetlands. The draft EIS is expected to be available for review and comment in early 2015.

We look forward to your participation and welcome comments. Thank you.

Mark Eberlein FEMA Region 10 Regional Environmental Officer (425) 487-4735 From: <u>Kerschke, William</u>

Subject: Reminder and Webinar Link and Call-in Number: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project - EIS Scoping Agency

Meeting Invitation

Date: Thursday, May 22, 2014 12:13:52 PM
Attachments: NOI Federal Register Notice 5-6-14.pdf

Hello – We are providing this email as a reminder for the Southern Flow Corridor Project agency scoping meeting that will be held on May 28th, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR. For individuals who cannot attend the meeting in-person, an Adobe Connect Webinar web link and call-in number has been provided below:

Adobe Webinar:

Start Time: 05/28/2014 10:00 AM

(10:00 am to 12:00pm)

URL: https://fema.connectsolutions.com/r7v81jrv96r/

Call-in Number: 1-800-320-4330, Conference Code: 155538

As noted in our prior email, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is pleased to invite you to an agency scoping meeting on the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A copy of FEMA's *Federal Register* Notice of Intent is attached. Your agency's administration has been notified via a formal letter, and we are also notifying you based on your interest, past or potential involvement with the project.

The agency scoping meeting will be held on:

- Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CH2M HILL building located at 2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201
- The meeting will also be accessible via a conference call/web meeting (please RSVP for web link and call in information).

You may also attend the public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall, 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook, OR 97141. Information on the public scoping meeting can be found at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org.

The scoping comment period will extend until June 13, 2014. Comments may be submitted via:

- Mail: FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer, 130 228th Street SW, Bothell, WA 98021
- Fax: (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS
- Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov
- Website: www.SouthernFlowCorridor.org

FEMA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Oregon, and local partners are proposing to fund a Southern Flow Corridor Project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. The project is located in a

floodplain and may affect wetlands. The Southern Flow Corridor Project's purpose is to reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods and reduce life safety risk from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. The proposed action – the Landowner Preferred Alternative - would accomplish this by removing and modifying levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area, restoring wetlands, and constructing new levees to protect some agricultural lands.

The EIS will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, agriculture, economic development, water quality, and wetlands. The draft EIS is expected to be available for review and comment in early 2015.

We look forward to your participation and welcome comments. Thank you.

Mark Eberlein FEMA Region 10 Regional Environmental Officer (425) 487-4735

Bill Kerschke

Environmental Specialist FEMA Region X 130 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021 Desk: 425-487-2187

Cell: 425-877-7865



TILLAMOOK SOUTHERN FLOW CORRIDOR PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) SCOPING MEETING

PLEASE SIGN IN HERE

May 28, 2014

	TITLE	MAILING ADDRESS			
PRINTED NAME	ORGANIZATION	CITY, STATE ZIP		EMAIL	
1 Rachel Hageety	Injact Consulting /Tillamouk Co.	9420 Herliman Hill	Rol Tillanak CR 97141	ic hageery ead com	
2 Paul Levesone	Tillamook County	201 Laure/Av	e Tillamook 9	7141 pleveson Deco. Tillemen. 45°	
3 Lauren Senkyr	NOAA Restoration Center			اauren.senkyr@noaa.gov	
4 MARK EBERLEN	FEMA	130 228 Th ST SW, BOTT	19CC, W4 98021 MM	rk. eberlein O forma. dks. gov	
5 Shave Latimer	Lat. Environ.			Stare & letine-en much	
6 Larry Mitiules	ODOT Astoria	4		1	
7 Megen Wilgart	NOAD Restoration Conte	- POI NE Lloyd Blu	d Stellou Portland, 6	of meganhilgerte nova jou	
8 Daz Ceamrons	USGS	2130 SW Ste	PORTCAND OR	CRANDUD & USGS.GOV	
9 Steven Sobieszczyk	USGS	2130 SN 5th Am	PD10 0R 97201	SS0816@ USCS.GOV	
10 Amy Surper	DEQ	- 2°20.		Singer. Any @ deg. drynore	

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Overview May 28, 2014













Agency meeting agenda

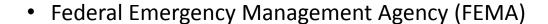
- Presentation
- Questions and answers
- Review boards and discuss individually
- Provide comments before June 13

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Who's involved?







National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)



Oregon Office of Emergency Management



Port of Tillamook Bay



Tillamook County



Oregon Solutions



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)



Tillamook Estuary Partnership



as well as individual donors

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

What is an EIS?

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund the project with grant funds
- To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal agencies must **document the impacts and benefits** of the alternatives through an environmental impact statement (EIS)

Scoping:

identify what should be studied in the EIS

Draft EIS (early 2015):

study and compare proposed alternatives including a no action alternative

Final EIS (mid 2015):

respond to comments and refine the analysis in the draft EIS

Proposed construction (2016)

We are here

Scoping process

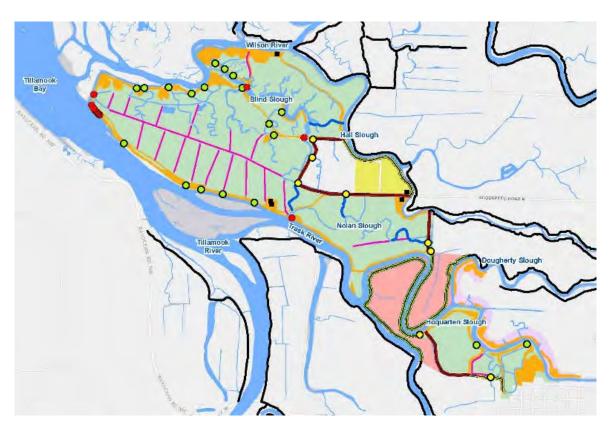
- Scoping is the **first milestone** of the NEPA process
- Purpose of scoping is to share information about the proposed project and gather input from the community that will inform the NEPA process
- After scoping, the project team will:
 - → Review comments to help refine alternatives and identify topics for study in the EIS
 - → Use the updated purpose and need to screen alternatives
 - Conduct analysis and develop the draft EIS for public review and comment

Purpose and need

- The purpose of the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project is to:
 - → Reduce flood damage to property and economic losses
 - → Reduce life safety risk from floods
 - → Contribute to the recovery of Oregon Coast coho
 - → Restore historical habitat for other native fish and wildlife
- The need for this action is:
 - → The area has a history of severe repetitive flooding with widespread damage to property, road closures, and other economic losses
 - To support recovery of threatened species and restore wetland, tidal marsh, and aquatic habitats that support fish and wildlife, which were lost through diking, draining and other land uses

Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative

- Proposed action developed by Oregon Solutions Consortium
- Goal is to reduce damage from flooding and restore habitat:
 - remove and modify levees for water to flow across area
 - → restore wetlands
 - protect lower delta agricultural lands
 - reduce flood elevations

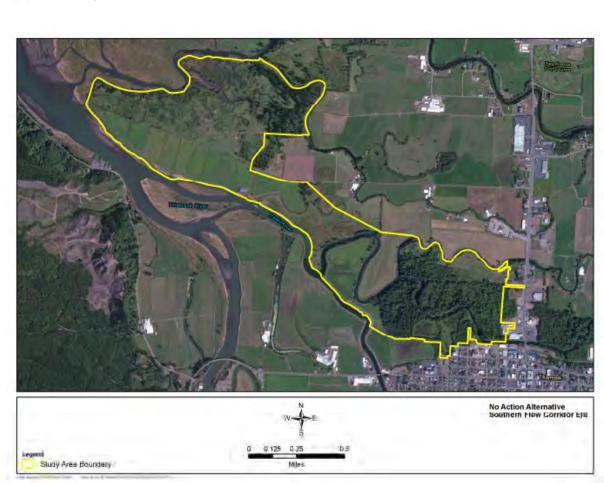


Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

No Action Alternative

- This alternative would:
 - → not build a project
 - → not change the existing levees/dikes
 - → leave existing wetland conditions the same
 - → not restore any wetlands
 - → not result in any change in flood elevations

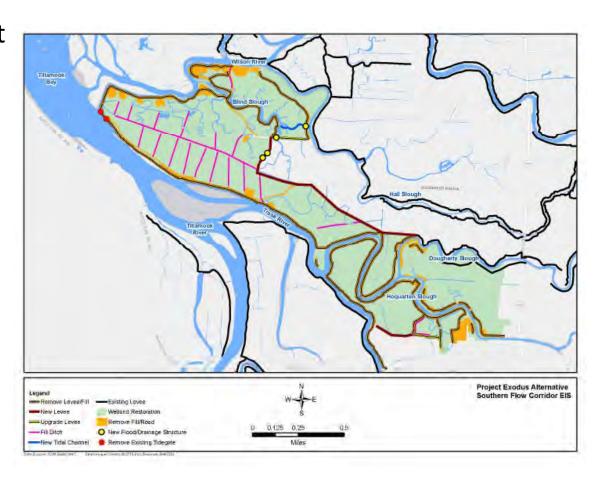




Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

Developed in 2009 as part of the Project Exodus study, this alternative would:

- remove 9 miles of levees
- → modify and build 2 miles of levees to protect lower delta agricultural lands
- ⇒ restore 715 acres of tidal wetlands
- → reduce flood elevations



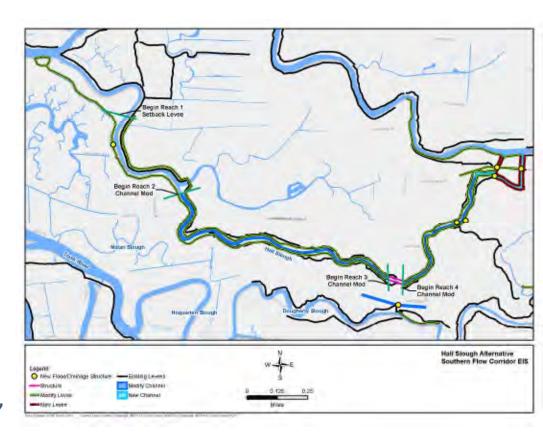
Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Hall Slough Alternative

Developed in 2002, this alternative would:

- → reconnect the upper end of Hall Slough to the Wilson River by:
 - setting back and modifying7 miles of levees
 - widening and deepening 4 miles of the Hall Slough channel
- → allow flood waters to flow down Hall Slough to Tillamook Bay
- → restore some tidal wetlands
- → reduce 1 to 2 year "nuisance" floods



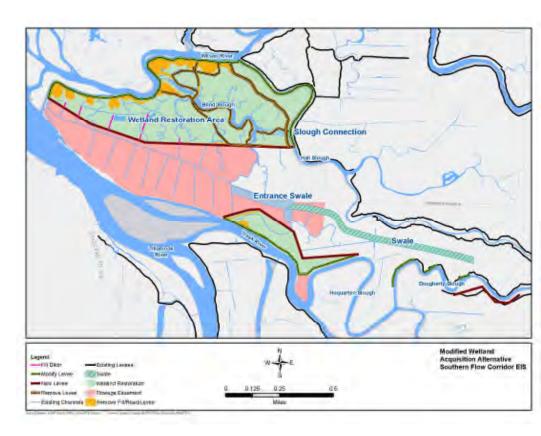
Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative

Developed in 2002, this alternative would:

- → remove 3 miles of levees
- modify 3 miles and build 2
 miles of levees to help protect
 agricultural lands and direct
 flows
- restore 226 acres of tidal wetlands
- → build a 1 mile swale to direct flood waters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay
- minimally reduce flood elevations in immediate area



At this meeting

- Review the proposed project and alternatives
- Provide written comments on:
 - Project's purpose and need
 - → Possible alternatives to address the purpose and need
 - → Resources that could be impacted
 - Such as community (historical/cultural/agricultural) and environmental (water quality/habitat) resources
 - → Ways to **avoid, minimize, or mitigate** the impacts of the alternatives

Environmental Impact Statement

Next steps

- After scoping, the project team will:
 - → Review comments to help refine alternatives and identify topics for study in the EIS
 - Use the updated purpose and need to screen alternatives
 - → Conduct analysis and develop the draft EIS for public review and comment
- Check www.SouthernFlowEIS.org for updates!

Southern Flow Corridor EIS Project Agency Scoping Meeting Notes - Draft

Meeting Information:	
Meeting Name / Topic:	Agency Scoping Meeting
Date/Time/Location:	May 28, 2014, 10 am – 12 pm PDT
	2020 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR and via Conference Call/web meeting

Attendees:

Mark Eberlein Jessica Stewart Science Kilner Barry Gall Bill Kerschke Paul Levesque Rachel Hagerty Lauren Senkyr Megan Hilgart Shane Latimer Steven Sobieszczyk Dar Crammond Larry McKinley	FEMA FEMA FEMA FEMA FEMA Tillamook County Impact Consulting / Tillamook County NOAA Restoration Center NOAA Restoration Center Latimer Environmental USGS USGS ODOT	
Amy Simpson Julie Slevin Melanie Gange Michele Bradley Aaron Palter Jaimee Davis Eric Peterson Kate Stenberg	DEQ Oregon Office of Emergency Management NOAA Port of Tillamook Port of Tillamook Corps of Engineers EPA CCPRS	(on phone) (on phone) (on phone) (on phone) (on phone) (on phone)
Claudia Lea Kristin Hull	CCPRS CCPRS	

Meeting Notes:

Introductions

Agenda

- Presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Review boards and discuss individually

• Provide comments before June 13; scoping period started on May 14

Who's involved?

- FEMA (lead)
- NOAA
- USFWS
- Oregon OEM
- Port of Tillamook Bay (applicant)
- Tillamook County
- Oregon Solutions
- OWEB
- Tillamook Estuary Partnership
- TBHEID
- Others

What is an EIS?

The Port of Tillamook submitted an application for a grant to repair damages from a flood that occurred several years ago. FEMA determined that this project will need an EIS, as required under NEPA. An EIS evaluates alternatives that address the project's purpose and need and evaluates those alternatives' benefits and impacts.

There are four steps to an EIS: scoping, Draft EIS (early 2015), Final EIS (mid 2015), and construction (2016).

Scoping Process

The purpose of scoping is to share information and gather input. Written comments are submitted to the Administrative Record. Comments help refine alternatives and identify/narrow topics to be studied in the EIS.

Purpose and Need

The project area has a history of severe repetitive flooding. The project purpose is to reduce flood damage, reduce life safety risk, contribute to recovery of Oregon Coast coho, and restore historical habitat for other native fish and wildlife. This project is needed to limit flooding, support recovery of species, and restore wetlands.

Alternatives

The project received a designation from the Oregon governor in 2007 as an Oregon Solutions problem, in order to address severe flooding problems. The Tillamook Oregon Solutions project identified several smaller projects to reduce flooding; some of these projects have already been completed. Upon completion of those smaller projects, the Southern Flow Corridor was identified as the single action that would reduce flooding the most.

Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative

Tillamook has a perched floodplain. Floodwaters cross Highway 101 between Dougherty and Hoquarten Sloughs. This alternative would remove seven miles of levee (moving approximately 85,000 cubic yards of material). Preliminary modeling shows it would reduce flood elevations over approximately 3,000 acres and that 540 structures would benefit from the project. This alternative would reconnect the floodplain to the river, which would open up 14 miles of off-channel habitat, and it would reconnect Blind Slough with Hall Slough. This alternative would require construction of setback levees. The approximate cost for this alternative is \$10M.

The County owns 377 acres (which were acquired between 2001 and 2004 for restoration purposes). As part of this alternative, 121 additional acres would need to be purchased (would be purchased from three landowners plus land exchange).

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative is studied in order to be able to compare alternatives. As part of this alternative, no project would be constructed, there would be no change in existing wetlands or dikes, there would be no change in flood elevations, and no wetlands would be restored.

Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

The Initial Alternative was developed in 2009 as part of Project Exodus. As part of this alternative, the County would need to acquire an additional 85 acres. The community felt that the 85 acres were high-value farmland and would prefer that the County not acquire those acres. With further modeling, it was determined that we would achieve similar benefits by acquiring flood easements and lowering the levees. The levees were originally built much higher than necessary. By lowering the levees, we would achieve the same flood damage reduction. As part of this alternative, nine miles of levees would be removed, 0.5 miles of levees would be modified, and one mile of new levee would be built. This alternative would require construction of setback levees. The approximate cost for this alternative was \$7.1M.

Hall Slough Alternative

A feasibility study for ecosystem restoration was conducted in the late 1990s (per Section 206). There can be flood damage benefits through ecosystem restoration. As part of this alternative, the upstream end of Hall Slough would be reconnected to Wilson River. The reconnection would pick up 1,000 cfs of flow. As part of this alternative, seven miles of setback levees would be constructed along Hall Slough. Hall Slough would be widened and deepened for four miles. This alternative would eliminate nuisance flooding for 1-2 year events. The approximate cost for this alternative was \$7.5M; however, there are cost unknowns related to a new bridge on Highway 101 over Hall Slough.

Question (Eric Peterson, EPA): Do the cost estimates include ongoing maintenance and long term costs, or are they construction costs?

Response (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County): Except for proposed action, long term costs were not developed. Cost estimates were based on preliminary modeling, and

did not include long-term maintenance. For the proposed action maintenance costs are anticipated to be approximately \$20k per year.

Comment (Larry McKinley, ODOT): There would be a reduction in maintenance costs for ODOT highways if this project were constructed because ODOT would not need to address repeated flood-related damages including mud removal.

Question (Aaron Palter, Port of Tillamook): Were maintenance costs built into the benefit-cost analysis (BCA)?

Response (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County): Maintenance costs were not considered.

Comment (Larry McKinley, ODOT): Maintenance costs are readily available from ODOT, if needed.

Comment (Aaron Palter, Port of Tillamook): If the BCA is still relevant to the EIS and feeds into the EIS, then perhaps we can include these other benefits in the project worksheet.

Response (Mark Eberlein, FEMA): These are good comments to include in written comments

Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative

As part of this alternative, three miles of levees would be removed and three miles of levees would be modified. A much narrower flow corridor would be created. The area to the north would remain in its existing condition. Only 226 acres of tidal wetlands would be restored as part of this alternative, and there would be minimal flood elevation reductions. Flood damage reduction would be limited to the project area. The approximate cost for this alternative was \$4.5M.

Question (Megan Hilgert, NOAA): Are all the costs based on the same year?

Response (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County): No, the costs are associated with the development year for each of the alternatives.

Question (Megan Hilgert, NOAA): Why do the alternatives' costs differ so greatly?

Response (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County; Rachel Hagerty, Impact Consulting / Tillamook County): The total approximate cost for the SFC Landowner Preferred Alternative is \$10M. Of that, \$5.8M is related to construction costs, \$1.6M is related to property acquisition; monitoring costs are included as well. Acquisition, monitoring, administration, etc. are items that are not included in the cost estimates for the older alternatives.

Question (Megan Hilgert, NOAA): Would less property be acquired for the Modified Wetland Alternative?

Response (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County): Yes – except for the swale, all the land is already owned by the county for the Modified Wetland Alternative. The proposed action would require more property to be acquired.

At this meeting:

- Review boards
- Provide written comments related to purpose and need, alternatives, resources that would be impacted, mitigation measures

Next Steps:

- Comments due by June 13
- All comments will be reviewed and considered
- Next step will be to develop Draft EIS

Comment (Larry McKinley, ODOT): ODOT is beginning a \$27M project in downtown Tillamook which includes improvements across a slough. This project will be under construction concurrently with the proposed SFC project. Construction for the ODOT project is expected to last three years.

Comment (Larry McKinley, ODOT): ODOT just completed a flood project near Seaside and brought \$0.75M to the table for mitigations through a wetland mitigation bank. Recommend building SFC project as wetland mitigation bank.

Comment (Larry McKinley, ODOT): There are contaminated soils associated with the historic veneer mills in the project area.

Question (Mark Eberlein, FEMA): How does ODOT dispose of the hazardous materials when it encounters them on their projects?

Response (Larry McKinley, ODOT): ODOT excavates the hazardous materials and disposes of them at an approved hazardous waste disposal facility. Most of the hazardous materials to date have gone to the Hillsboro site. Contaminated soils add to the project cost substantially.

Comment (Paul Levesque, Tillamook County): Tillamook County has filed an application and has been accepted into the voluntary cleanup program. Tillamook County is working as a prospective purchaser and has done a Level 2 sampling effort. Additional sampling is being done as part of the geotechnical investigation. There are only a couple of small areas of contamination identified. The proposed action would reuse excavated soil from much of the site. Approximately 85,000 cy would be excavated and reused elsewhere on the project site.

Comment (Amy Simpson, DEQ): DEQ has assigned a PM from the voluntary cleanup program. The kickoff meeting will be held on June 6. We are just starting to formulate an approach for sampling. The expectation is that by bringing DEQ in to inform the design

process we will end up with a better project. We will know were contaminated soils are located, and can decide whether to remove or leave in place, and what the costs for removal might be. Suggested coordinating with the sediment evaluation team at DEQ.

Conclusion of Meeting

Request that those attending via phone email Bill to confirm their names and contact - information. -

Public scoping meeting will be tonight starting at 5:30pm in Tillamook. -

Meeting broke up into individual discussions. -

Appendix C

Public Scoping Meeting Notification

Postcard

Invitation Email to Public

Newspaper Display Ads

Poster

Website

Television Broadcast Information

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands.

Come to the scoping meeting to learn about the proposed project; ask questions; and submit comments about the alternatives and environmental impacts to floodplains, wetlands, and other resources.

Wednesday, May 28, 2014 5:30 to 7:30 pm

5:45 presentation, followed by a drop-in open house

Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall (6825 Officers Row, Tillamook)

Learn more & provide comments at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org



FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Come to a Scoping Meeting!

5:30 to 7:30 pm Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall

Meeting space is ADA accessible. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request by May 23: (503) 872-4472.

¿Habla Español? Para recibir la información en Español, por favor llame al (503) 872-4472.

Learn more and comment at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS <fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 7:10 AM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Open House May 28th

Hello - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands.

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Wednesday, May 28, 2014

5:30 to 7:30 pm, presentation at 5:45 pm, followed by a drop-in open house **Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall (6825 Officers Row, Tillamook)**

Meeting space is ADA accessible. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request by May 23; please call (503) 872-4472. Children's activities will be provided.

¿Habla Español? Para recibir la información en Español, por favor llame al (503) 872-4472.

The public can submit their comments at the scoping meeting or before June 13 by:

- Website comment form at <u>www.SouthernFlowEIS.org</u>
- Mail to FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021
- Fax to (425) 487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS
- Email to fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov

ABOUT the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project - The purpose of the project is to reduce flood damages to property and other economic losses from floods and reduce life safety risk from floods, while also contributing to the recovery of federally listed Oregon Coast coho and restoring habitat for other native fish and wildlife species. FEMA expects to complete the EIS process in mid-2015 with project construction starting in 2016.

Mark Eberlein FEMA Region 10 Regional Environmental Officer (425) 487-4735

Missing cash from state prison wasn't ever missing

By Les Zaitz lzaitz@oregonian.com

The Great Quarter Caper in the Oregon prison system is

For a year, the Oregon Department of Corrections was certain someone had stolen an estimated \$30,000 worth of quarters and tokens dropped into visitor lockers at the Oregon State Correctional Institution, outside Salem.

said the money - the equivalent of 120,000 quarters = had disappeared unnoticed for nearly a decade.

Turns out, that money wasn't missing after all.

As reported last October by The Oregonian, the apparent theft triggered first one internal investigation, then a criminal investigation and finally an elaborate criminal investiga-

In a report recently released

to The Oregonian, State Police Lt. Steve Duvall concluded as "unfounded" the suspicions of an inside job. "The reportedly missing

money was accounted for and deposited," Duvall said in his

The suspicions developed as authorities investigated an

Corrections officials last year tion by the Oregon State Police. employee, John E. Sipple, An internal audit concluded in tions and supplies. former recreation manager at the prison, later admitted taking cash kickbacks from food purchases. He also was in charge for years of clearing money from the visitor

> The lockers are in an entry booth at the Salem prison. Visitors plunk in a quarter to secure property they aren't OSCI employee for theft. The allowed to take into the prison.

March 2013 that the money was missing.

Sipple insisted he hadn't taken a single quarter.

Duvall said he discovered by careful analysis of prison records that the locker money was right where it was supposed to be: on the state's books. The money was in the Inmate Welfare Fund, used to pay for certain inmate func-

Duvall said, however, that he found a "lack of oversight in the process, inadequate accounting of funds, and the lack of sufficient records."

"We did not have proper procedures in place for the account of locker revenue," said Corrections spokeswoman Liz Craig told The Oregonian. "We have since taken steps to remedy that."

East Gresham school to use grant to replace teachers

By Eric Apalategui Special to The Oregonian

At least half the staff at long-struggling East Gresham Elementary School will be replaced under terms of a newly awarded \$1.85 million federal "turnaround" grant.



The U.S. Department of Education aims its three-year Student Improvement Grants at schools serving the nation's poorest and lowest-achieving student bodies. The money pays for a variety of staff development and student support

Gresham-Barlow Superintendent Jim Schlachter said in an interview Tuesday that the district chose the grant's "Turnaround Model," which includes replacing many of East Gresham's 23 teachers and 18 support personnel.

The district has already hired veteran school administrator Kimberly Miles to lead the effort, which will begin with the 2014-15 school

Schlachter expects some of East Gresham's current teaching and support staffs to request transfers to different schools. Those employees who are reassigned will be replaced by educators from inside the district and potentially some new hires, he said.

The district's teachers union wrote a letter in support of the grant application with the understanding that members would be shuffled, Schlachter said.

East Gresham's grant was the largest of just three School Improvement Grants awarded in Oregon this year. The other recipients, Woodlawn Elementary in inner Northeast Portland and Warm Springs Elementary in Jefferson County, will use the "Transformation Model," which aims to reform a school while keeping its staff largely intact.

Diggin' the bright sunshine



MICHAEL LLOYD/THE OREGONIAN

Kaitlyn Cazares, 8, and her family joined the Johnson Creek Watershed Council, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Portland Parks and Recreation to clean up wetlands near Johnson Creek Park in Tuesday's warm sunshine. Highs are expected to climb to near 90 today. Cooler weather and a chance of rain are expected to come Friday. For the latest weather updates, including tips on staying cool and safe, go to oregonlive.com/weather.

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

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NORTHWEST

N.J. priest falls to death on **Mount Hood**

A 57-year-old Catholic priest from New Jersey was identified as the climber who fell Tuesday to his death on Mount

It may take days for conditions to improve on the mountain to safely recover the body of the Rev. Robert J. Cormier of Jersey City, rescue officials said.

about 8 a.m. when a snow corfor municipal celebrations. nice collapsed beneath him. said Hood River County Sheriff Matt English. A climber not in his group saw Cormier fall and called 9-1-1.

A sheriff's office airplane spotter located Cormier's body after the emergency call came in, said Bernie Wells, a search coordinator for the Crag Rats, a volunteer search and rescue group based in Hood River. It was clear that he'd died in the fall, English said.

Cormier was climbing the

two companions, officials said. - Stuart Tomlinson

MIRROR POND: Consultants have told Bend officials that keeping landmark Mirror Pond means replacing or rebuilding the dam that forms it.

The Bend Bulletin reports that parks officials hired an Arizona engineering company to assess the dam. It impounds the Deschutes River down-Cormier fell about 700 feet town to create a lake popular from the summit's north side for recreational use and a site

> The verdict. The century-o wooden dam will eventually fail. Replacing or rebuilding it would cost from \$2 million to \$3.7 million, not including significant costs of engineering, permits, dredging and possibly creating passage for fish.

> Local officials are discussing whether the park district should acquire the dam from PacifiCorp, the power company that owns it:

> PacifiCorp says it no longer makes financial sense to main-

popular south side route with tain the dam and its power supply.

Associated Press

DAM CRACK: Preliminary results of what caused a big crack in Wanapum Dam point to a mathematical error during design of the structure more than 50 years ago, the Grant County Public Utility District said Tuesday.

The underwater crack formed across a spillway pier of the huge dam and may have been exacerbated by a weak construction joint, the utility said. The preliminary findings will be submitted to the utility's Board of Consultants for final review.

The utility says a team of engineers discovered the mathematical error while examining the original design calculations of the Wanapum Dam spillway. When they recalculated the design formulas, they found that additional concrete and/or reinforced steel should have been used in the construction.

A crack that was 2 inches

wide and 65 feet long was discovered in February on a spillway pier of the 8,000-foot dam. The reservoir behind the dam was lowered by 26 feet, relieving pressure and causing the crack to close itself.

Repairing the pier will require that additional steel be installed through the concrete structure and into the bedrock, the utility said. The remaining 12 spillway piers have a design similar to the one that cracked, and steel reinforcement will likely be necessary there as well, the utility said.

Meanwhile, efforts to drive fish around the Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams have been suspended after a study found modifications made for migrating adult salmon were working.

The utility district started trapping and hauling fish in April, as the first of 20,000 spring chinook salmon arrived in the Vantage area but has suspended operations.

- Associated Press:

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Affidavit of Publication

Publisher of The Oregonian, a newspaper of general circ know from my personal knowledge that the advertiseme entire issue of said newspaper in the following issues:			
5/14/2014			
Genald Brickel			
Principal Clerk of the Publisher			
Subscribed and sworn to before me this date:	day of _May		, 20 4
Christino D. Cassel Notary Public for Oregon			
My commission expires 2744 day of	May	, 20 16	

Ad Order Number: 0003597415



Tillamook School Board member resigns

by Chelsea Yarnell cyarnell@countrymedia.net

Tillamook School Board member Troy Downing has announced his resignation.

During a board meeting May 12, Downing said, "With mixed emotions, I've decided to step down after five years. I want to thank everyone in the district. I admire everything you do for the students.'

Downing added that his



travel schedule and other obli-

gations had made it increasingly difficult to be as involved with the school board as he wished.

We will miss what you brought to the board," responded Tillamook School District Superintendent Randy Schild. "You've been here for the right reason and now you're leaving for the right reason.'

Downing's term will end June 1. The board is assembling a committee to appoint his replacement.



Kilchis House Assisted Living would like to thank

S~R Repair LLC • Miracle-Ear Tillamook Pharmacy • Burdens Towing and **Baertlein & Phegley** for the generous donation of Ham Dinners from St. Albans Church for our residents.

Thank you!

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

End in sight for Laneda Ave. project

Weather permitting, the street may be finished by Memorial Day.

Though the contractor for the Laneda Ave. project has until June 10 to complete the job, it is looking more and more that the street from Division to Hwy 101 will be completed by the end of May.

"At this point, the city is confident that the contractor will have the street paved before Memorial Day and that is well ahead of the contract schedule," said Bret Siler, of Manzanita Public Works, in an email project update. "Hopefully the weather is good to help facilitate this early completion by the

Towards the end of last week, crews began forming the south side gutter system in preparation for the pouring of concrete early this week, weather permitting. Forming of the north side curb and gutter system of Laneda Ave. also began Monday.

"We should learn at the next Monday morning meeting on when they will pour the north side curb, gutter and sidewalk. During this concrete phase is when driveway access will be impacted for the longest periods of time," Siler added.

In the meantime, Laneda Ave. is still closed to through traffic, including foot traffic from Hwy 101 to Division St. The Classic St./Laneda Ave. intersection is also closed to north and south bound traffic on Classic St. Local access is still available to those that need it within these two blocks.

Unother

ODOT delays construction bid on Manzanita culvert project

The Oregon Department of Transportation has postponed the construction bid for the Manzanita Avenue to Neahkahnie Creek culvert replacement and U.S. 101 realignment until this fall. Construction and culvert replacement was planned to start in June but there were design considerations and some unforeseen issues that forced the postponement.

While the project construction will not begin until next

spring, the project end date has not changed and it will be completed by October 2016 as originally specified.

The project consists of replacing an existing culvert at Neahkahnie Creek with a tunnel structure and enhancement of the stream bed, relocating and realignment of U.S. 101 to improve this section of the highway, and enhancing turning lane movements into downtown Manzanita.



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Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project**

Environmental Impact Statement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands.

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Learn more & provide comments at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org



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Thank You

The Neu family wishes to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who braved the weather and joined us on Saturday, May 3rd. It was heartwarming to see so many caring friends and family. A special thank you to all of those who supplied food, flowers and assistance.

PETER KLEEMAN **AUTO BODY SPRING** SPECIALS

Cars for sale: 2006 Chrysler Sebring Convertible, 4 cylinder, leather interior, new tires, 75,000 miles \$4,850. 2005 Toyota Rav 4, AWD, 58,000 miles \$8,850. Call (503) 842-8868

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"Just call me Tim"



County Commissioner Tim Josi

Tillamook County is one of fifteen Oregon counties that deeded their forest lands to the state to be managed on our behalf through a formal trust relationship. Over the years, I have chaired the Council of Forest Trust Land Counties. I work collaboratively with the State to manage our forest so that they provide family wage jobs; revenues for our schools and governmental services; recreational opportunities and habitat for fish and wildlife. I'm also on a national committee that is working to improve forest health and provide family wage jobs from our federal forests. My work is not finished.

PERSONAL:

My background is an integral part of who I am as a public servant. I was raised on a local dairy farm where I learned the value of hard work. I graduated from Oregon State University and shortly thereafter started my own business as a landscape contractor. I ran my business for nearly 25 years and managed employees. I utilized my training at OSU to design, bid and contract projects that ranged from private homes to public schools. My six brothers and sisters have always been self-employed. I have two grown children. A little over three years ago, I lost my wife to a sudden illness.

COMMITTED:

I love my job. I'm passionate about protecting our rural charm and quality of life. I still have much to do and need your vote on May 20. Please call me with your ideas and concerns. 503-842-3403

Tim Josi

You can learn more about me by visiting my Web site at: www.timjosi.com

Tim Josi – a solid record of accomplishments! Re-Elect Tim Josi TILLAMOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TIM JOSI, 6740 BASELINE ROAD, BAY CITY, OR 97107

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project **Environmental Impact Statement**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands.

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During scoping (May 14-June 13) provide comments about the alternatives and environmental impacts to floodplains, wetlands, and other resources.

> Learn more and provide comments at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Come as our guest May 17th. Fill your plate with Homemade Lasagna, Pizza, Salad & Dessert for just \$9 from 5-8 pm. Karaoke to follow until 11 pm. CHECK US OUT! Eagles 2144, 209 Stillwell, Tillamook

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Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Tell us what you think!

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. FEMA will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act to document the benefits and impacts of possible alternatives to address these issues. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands.

The first step in the environmental documentation process is to conduct scoping (between May 14 and June 13). During scoping, you are encouraged to:

- Learn about the EIS process and the proposed project, as well as other alternatives to reduce flood damages and restore estuary habitats
- → **Provide comments** on what should be studied in the EIS and the possible impacts and benefits of the possible project (or alternatives) to floodplains, wetlands, and other resources

Come to the **Scoping Meeting** to learn more, ask questions, and submit comments!

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

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Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall (6825 Officers Row, Tillamook)

Meeting space is ADA accessible. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request by May 23: (503) 872-4472. ¿Habla Español? Le podemos proporcionar la información en esta publicación en Español. Para recibir la información en español, por favor llame al (503) 872-4472.

Can't attend the meeting?

Return your comments by June 13, 2014

Online
www.SouthernFlowFIS.org

Mail

Email

www.SouthernFlowEIS.org FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein

130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS

(425) 487-4613

Fax

fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov



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Comment

Useful Links

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Begins

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. Through a decade-long process, the Oregon Solutions Consortium (Tillamook County; the Port of Tillamook Bay; other local, state, and federal agencies; and the Tillamook community) have developed a proposed project, the Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative.

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to document the benefits and impacts of the proposed project and other alternatives. FEMA will invite public review and comment throughout the EIS process.

The main project sponsors and their roles are:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program Grantor
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center Grantor
- <u>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</u> (USFWS) Coastal Wetlands Program, Fish Passage, and Partners for Fish and Wildlife Programs Grantor
- Oregon Office of Emergency Management FEMA Public Assistance Program Grantee
- Port of Tillamook Bay (POTB) FEMA Public Assistance Program Subgrantee
- Tillamook County NOAA and USFWS Grantee/Subgrantee and project sponsor
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) USFWS Grantee and OR Lottery Funds Grantor
- Tillamook Estuary Partnership
- Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District
- · as well as individual donors

The purpose of this website is to provide information about the NEPA process for the Southern Flow Corridor Project, how to get involved, and where to find additional information.













What's new?

May 2014: EIS Scoping

We invite you to provide scoping comments at the scoping meeting:

Wednesday, May 28 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Port of Tillamook Bay, Officer's Mess Hall (6825 Officers Row, near the Air Museum)

Can't make the scoping meeting? Review materials online and submit comments between May 14 and June 13, 2014.

Home EIS Overview Project Overview Get Involved Comment Useful Links

EIS Overview

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to take into account environmental considerations when authorizing or approving major actions. The Port of Tillamook Bay and Tillamook County have applied for grant funding from federal agencies to construct a project to reduce flood damages and restore wetlands and habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. Therefore, FEMA, in cooperation with other federal agencies, has initiated the environmental review process and will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the benefits and impacts of possible alternatives to address these issues.

EIS process

The EIS process includes several steps:

Scoping:

Scoping is a process to determine the scope, focus, and content of an EIS, including which factors should be analyzed in the EIS. FEMA will ask the public, tribes, and other agencies to provide input during a 30-day scoping period (May 14 to June 13, 2014).

Specifically, FEMA will ask for input on the following topics during scoping:

- Project's purpose and need
- Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
- Resources that could be impacted
- Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

The input gathered during scoping will help shape the project and assessment criteria that will be used in evaluating alternatives. FEMA will summarize comments received into a publically available scoping report.

Draft EIS:

The draft EIS will document environmental consequences and any appropriate mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts of the proposed project and alternatives. When the draft EIS is released for comment (anticipated in winter 2015), FEMA will accept comments for 45 days and hold at least one public meeting to collect comments. Information on how members of the public can review and comment on the draft EIS when it is available will be posted here.

As part of the environmental review process, FEMA and NOAA will also evaluate whether the proposed project is in compliance with other federal authorities and statutes.

Compliance will be documented in the draft EIS for public review. Some of the more significant regulatory requirements include the following:

• National Historic Preservation Act

 Requires the evaluation of whether the project will impact historically registered buildings or sites, in the effort to preserve historic public lands and resources to increase historic preservation.

• Endangered Species Act of 1973

 The purpose of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is to protect and recover imperiled species and the ecosystems upon which they depend.

• Executive Orders 11988 and 11990

- <u>Executive Order 11988: Floodplain Management</u> This law aims to avoid the adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains.
- <u>Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands</u> This law aims to avoid the adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands.

• Migratory Bird Treaty Act

 This law is aimed at the protection of migratory birds in the United States and Canada

• Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act

o Provides for the conservation and management of fisheries.

• Farmland Protection Policy Act

 This law is intended to minimize the impact of federal programs on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses.

Final EIS:

The final EIS will respond to public and agency comments on the draft EIS. The final EIS will include an appendix containing all comments received on the draft EIS, along with responses from FEMA. The final EIS will be updated based on comments received as needed. Following publication of the final EIS, FEMA, NOAA, and other federal partnering agencies would each issue a record of decision before taking any action on the proposed project.













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Project Overview

Get Involved

Comment

Useful Links

Project Overview

FEMA received a Public Assistance application from the Port of Tillamook Bay (POTB) (called the Applicant in the NEPA process) for the Southern Flow Corridor - Landowner Preferred Alternative as an alternate project to the repairs of its rail line that was damaged during flooding and severe storms in December 2007.

FEMA proposes to provide funding for the project to POTB through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program (Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended). Other funding for the project comes from the NOAA Restoration Center, State of Oregon lottery funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Tillamook County. Other public and private entities may also provide funding to support the project.

The development of the project originated through an initiative of the Oregon Solutions Program, which is a program launched by the Governor's office after passage of the Oregon Sustainability Act in 2001. This initiative brought together federal, state, and local government agencies to identify strategies for implementing flood control measures and ecosystem restoration actions within the Tillamook Bay watershed. The Oregon Solutions team identified, evaluated, and prioritized projects. Multiple alternatives were considered along with multiple funding sources. The proposed project (Southern Flow Corridor - Landowner Preferred Alternative) is the outcome of this effort.

A <u>2013 report</u> (*PDF*) provides a graphical depiction of proposed elements, alternatives considered by the Applicant prior to the development of the Southern Flow Corridor - Landowner Preferred Alternative, previous public outreach and involvement efforts, and a history of efforts since the late 1990s to address flooding and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay watershed.

PDF files can be viewed with Acrobat® Reader®

Alternatives

Click on the images below to view larger versions of the maps. All quantities listed below are estimates.

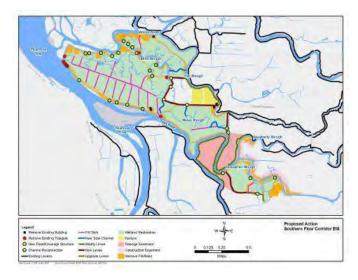
No Action Alternative



This alternative would:

- not build a project
- not change the existing levees/dikes
- leave tidal wetland conditions the same
- · not restore any wetlands
- not result in any change in flood elevations

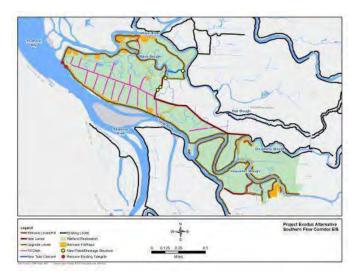
Southern Flow Corridor - Landowner Preferred Alternative



Developed in 2012, this alternative (proposed action) would:

- remove 7 miles and modify 3 miles of levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area
- build 1 mile of new levees to protect lower delta agricultural lands
- restore 526 acres of tidal wetlands
- require a flowage easement over 85 acres to allow high flows to pass to Tillamook Bay
- reduce flood elevations

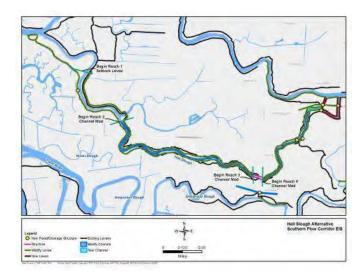
Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative



Developed in 2009 as part of the Project Exodus study, this alternative would:

- remove 9 miles of levees
- modify and build 2 miles of levees to protect lower delta agricultural lands
- restore 715 acres of tidal wetlands
- · reduce flood elevations

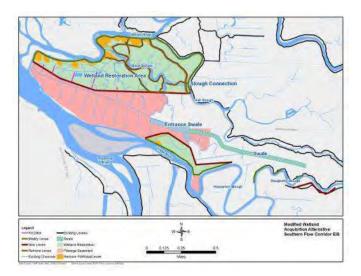
Hall Slough Alternative



Developed in 2002, this alternative would:

- reconnect the upper end of Hall Slough to the Wilson River by:
 - $\circ\,$ setting back and modifying 7 miles of levees
 - o widening and deepening 4 miles of the Hall Slough channel
- allow flood waters to flow down Hall Slough to Tillamook Bay
- restore some tidal wetlands
- reduce the 1 to 2 year "nuisance" floods

Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative



Developed in 2002, this alternative would:

- remove 3 miles of levees
- modify 3 miles and build 2 miles of levees to help protect agricultural lands and direct flows
- restore 226 acres of tidal wetlands
- build a 1 mile swale to direct flood waters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay
- minimally reduce flood elevations in the immediate area

More information about the proposed project and history is available from the $\underline{\text{Oregon}}$ $\underline{\text{Solutions Consortium}}$ and others on the $\underline{\text{Useful Links}}$ page.













Home EIS Overview

Project Overview

Get Involved

Comment

Useful Links

Get Involved

FEMA wants to hear the community's thoughts about the proposed project, as well as other alternatives to reduce flood damages and restore wetlands and habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. NEPA and related laws have a public involvement component, thus as FEMA prepares the environmental impact statement (EIS), it is important that the public provide comments.

Join the mailing list, send a comment, or attend a public meeting.

Public EIS scoping meeting

FEMA will ask the public, tribes, and other agencies to comment on what the EIS should study during a 30-day scoping period (May 14 to June 13, 2014). A public scoping meeting will provide the community with an opportunity to review project maps and ask questions about the project and the EIS process. The public scoping meeting is scheduled for:

Wednesday, May 28 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Presentation at 5:45 p.m., followed by a drop-in open house

Port of Tillamook Bay, Officer's Mess Hall

(6825 Officers Row, near the Air Museum)

Meeting space is ADA accessible. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request by May 23; please call (503) 872-4472. Children's activities will be provided. ¿Habla Español? Para recibir la información en Español, por favor llame al (503) 872-4472.

Below are the scoping notification and meeting materials:

Notification

- Poster (PDF, 127KB)
- Postcard (PDF, 114KB)

Scoping meeting materials

- Public guide to scoping (PDF, 151KB)
- Alternatives fact sheet (PDF, 1.92MB)
- Presentation (PDF, 406KB)
- Display boards (PDF, 3.64MB)
- Comment form (PDF, 150KB)

PDF files can be viewed with Acrobat® Reader®

Click images to enlarge



The 1999 Tillamook Flood (Click to enlarge)

Subscribe to Our Mailing List

Join the mailing list to stay up-to-date on the EIS process. FEMA respects your privacy and will never sell or give away your contact information.

First Name * Last Name * Address 1 Address Line 2 City State Zip Code Phone Number

Submit

Click here to fill out an electronic version of the scoping comment form (available between May 14 and June 13, 2014).

Once the scoping period ends, comments will be compiled into a scoping report.













Get Involved

Comment

Useful Links

Project Overview

Comment			
Comment	Subscrib	e to Ou	ır Mailing List
If you cannot access this form, have other questions, or would like to comment another way, you can reach us by:	Join the mailing list to stay up-to-date on the EIS process. FEMA respects your privacy and will never sell or give away your contact information.		
• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov	Email Address *		
• Fax: (425) 487-4613, Attention FEMA Southern Flow Corridor EIS			
• Mail:	First Name	*	Last Name *
Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228 th Street SW	Address 1		
Bothell, WA 98021	Address Lir	ne 2	
Comment Form	City	State	Zip Code
Name *	City	State	Zip code
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Submit

Home

EIS Overview













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Comment			
Comment	Subscrib	e to Ou	ır Mailing List
If you cannot access this form, have other questions, or would like to comment another way, you can reach us by:	Join the mailing list to stay up-to-date on the EIS process. FEMA respects your privacy and will never sell or give away your contact information.		
• Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov	Email Address *		
• Fax: (425) 487-4613, Attention FEMA Southern Flow Corridor EIS			
• Mail:	First Name	*	Last Name *
Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228 th Street SW	Address 1		
Bothell, WA 98021	Address Lir	ne 2	
Comment Form	City	State	Zip Code
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Mailing Address	Phone Num	ıber	
City	555-555-5555		
City	Submit		
State			
ZIP *			
Email *			
Comment *			
Comment *			

Submit

Home

EIS Overview













From: Kilner, Science <Science.Kilner@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 10:54 AM

To: Stenberg, Kate; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Stewart, Jessica M;

'kristin.hull@ch2m.com'; 'Julie Slevin (julie.slevin@oem.state.or.us)'; Hartwell, Aaron;

'Aaron Palter (apalter@potb.org)'; 'mbradley@potb.org'; Lopez, Lois

Cc: Eberlein, Mark

Subject: FW: Tillamook SFC Project Scoping Meeting link

Fyi - video of public meeting

----Original Message-----

From: Tilda [mailto:Tbheid@tillamookoffice.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2014 9:31 AM

To: Paul Levesque; Aaron Palter; Rachel Hagerty - Impact Consulting; Kilner, Science; Eberlein, Mark

Cc: allen

Subject: Tillamook SFC Project Scoping Meeting link

Use below link to see local television program of May 28 Tillamook SFC Project Scoping Meeting. Program shown several times daily for couple weeks--through June 13 deadline for public comments.

Tilda @ TBHEID Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Scott [mailto:jscott@tctvonline.com]

Sent: Saturday, June 07, 2014 11:15 AM

To: Tilda Subject: link

This is the link to the FEMA program:

http://janescottvideoproductions.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=1f2a849bf5d67537d0d90aef58da1c6e

Jane Scott Video Productions PO Box 249 Netarts, OR 97143 503-842-7297

Appendix D

Public Scoping Meeting Materials

Public Scoping Meeting Photos
Public Scoping Presentation
Comment Form
Community Guide to Scoping Handout
Alternatives Factsheet
Coloring Sheet
Exhibit Boards

Project Area Discussion Map

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Scoping Meeting May 28, 2014 Port of Tillamook Bay Officer's Mess Hall 6825 Officers Row, Tillamook











Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Overview May 28, 2014









TO DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF

Agency meeting agenda

- Presentation
- Questions and answers
- Review boards and discuss individually
- Provide comments before June 13









Environmental Impact Statement

Who's involved?







National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



• U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)



Oregon Office of Emergency Management



Port of Tillamook Bay



Tillamook County



Oregon Solutions



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)



Tillamook Estuary Partnership









Environmental Impact Statement

What is an EIS?

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund the project with grant funds
- To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal agencies must **document the impacts and benefits** of the alternatives through an environmental impact statement (EIS)

Scoping:

identify what should be studied in the EIS

Draft EIS (early 2015):

study and compare proposed alternatives including a no action alternative

Final EIS (mid 2015):

respond to comments and refine the analysis in the draft EIS

Proposed construction (2016)

We are here











Scoping process

- Scoping is the first milestone of the NEPA process
- Purpose of scoping is to share information about the proposed project and gather input from the community that will inform the NEPA process
- After scoping, the project team will:
 - Review **comments** to help refine alternatives and identify topics for study in the EIS
 - → Use the updated purpose and need to screen alternatives
 - → Conduct analysis and develop the draft EIS for public review and comment











Purpose and need

- The purpose of the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project is to:
 - → Reduce flood damage to property and economic losses
 - → Reduce life safety risk from floods
 - → Contribute to the recovery of Oregon Coast coho
 - → Restore historical habitat for other native fish and wildlife
- The need for this action is:
 - → The area has a history of severe repetitive flooding with widespread damage to property, road closures, and other economic losses
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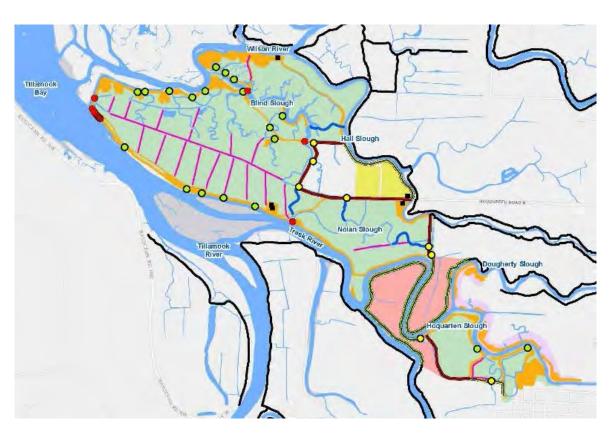




Environmental Impact Statement

Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative

- Proposed action developed by Oregon Solutions Consortium
- Goal is to reduce damage from flooding and restore habitat:
 - remove and modify levees for water to flow across area
 - → restore wetlands
 - protect lower delta agricultural lands
 - reduce flood elevations







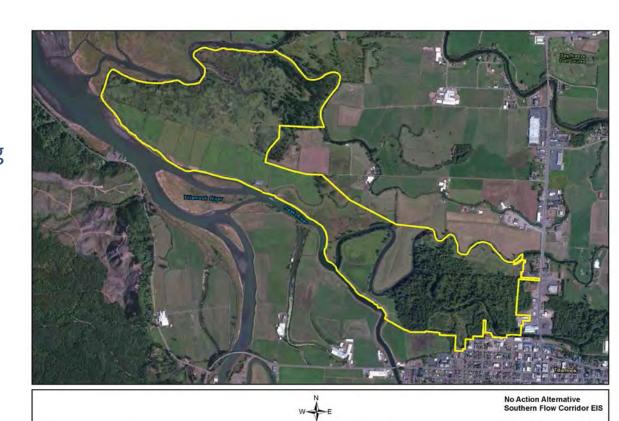




Environmental Impact Statement

No Action Alternative

- This alternative would:
 - → not build a project
 - → not change the existing levees/dikes
 - → leave existing wetland conditions the same
 - → not restore any wetlands
 - → not result in any change in flood elevations











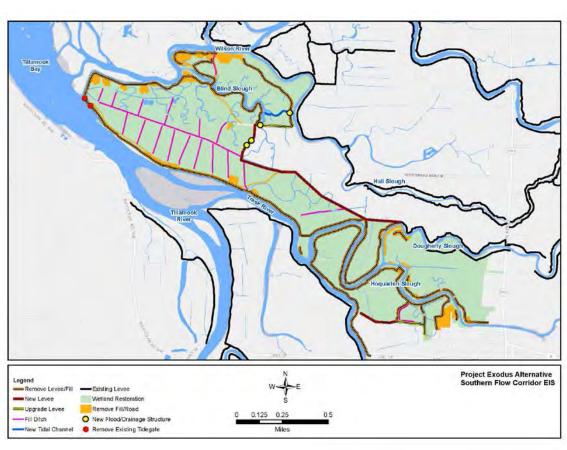


Environmental Impact Statement

Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

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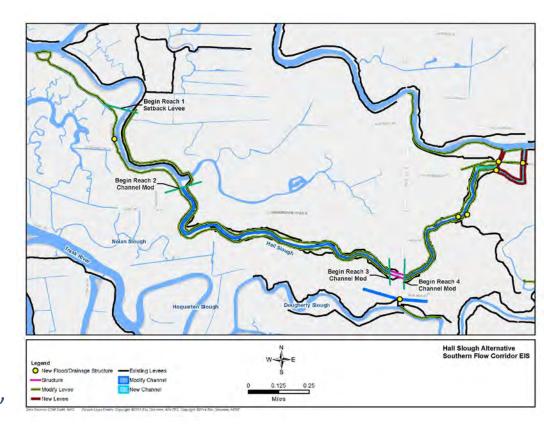


Environmental Impact Statement

Hall Slough Alternative

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- → reduce 1 to 2 year "nuisance" floods









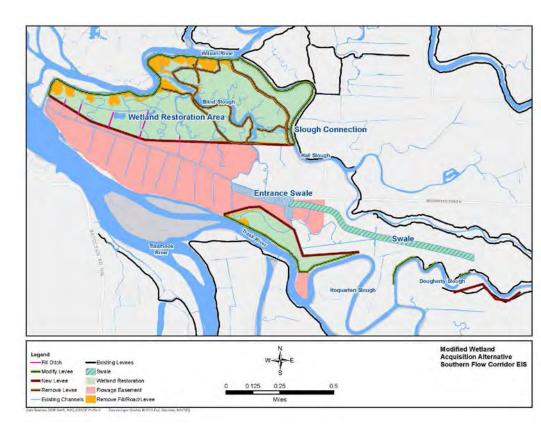


Environmental Impact Statement



Developed in 2002, this alternative would:

- → remove 3 miles of levees
- modify 3 miles and build 2 miles of levees to help protect agricultural lands and direct flows
- restore 226 acres of tidal wetlands
- → build a 1 mile swale to direct flood waters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay
- minimally reduce flood elevations in in













At this meeting

- Review the proposed project and alternatives
- Provide written comments on:
 - → Project's purpose and need
 - → Possible alternatives to address the purpose and need
 - → Resources that could be impacted
 - Such as community (historical/cultural/agricultural) and environmental (water quality/habitat) resources
 - → Ways to **avoid, minimize, or mitigate** the impacts of the alternatives











Next steps

- After scoping, the project team will:
 - → Review comments to help refine alternatives and identify topics for study in the EIS
 - → Use the updated purpose and need to screen alternatives
 - → Conduct analysis and develop the draft EIS for public review and comment
- Check www.SouthernFlowEIS.org for updates!









Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

- → Project's purpose and need
- → Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
- → Resources that could be impacted
- → Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

Comments submitted by **June 13, 2014** will become part of a scoping report, which will help the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and other partners determine what to study in the environmental impact statement.

partners determine what to study in the environmental impact statement.
I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.
Purpose and need for the project
Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need
Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources)
Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)
Other (use back or attach pages)

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Community guide to scoping

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. FEMA will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act to document the benefits and impacts of possible alternatives to address these issues. This project is located in a floodplain and may affect wetlands. As part of the EIS process, FEMA is conducting "scoping" to hear from you before preparing the EIS. Read on to learn how you can get involved.

What is the "scoping" process?

Scoping is the first step in the federal environmental analysis process. During this time, FEMA invites you to provide input about what should be studied in the EIS. Typically, an EIS will consider:

- Natural resources like fish and wildlife habitats, wetlands, and water quality.
- Social and community resources like historic and cultural sites, and residential and business impacts.
- Other topics like land acquisitions, agricultural impacts, and provision of emergency services.

During scoping, you can learn about the EIS process, the Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative (as well as possible alternatives), and provide comments on what should be studied in the EIS. You can also comment on the possible impacts from the alternatives.

What are "scoping" comments?

Scoping is designed to gather input on these topics (or any other thoughts or concerns you have about the project):

- The project's purpose and need.
- Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need.
- Resources (farmland, wetlands, etc.) that might be impacted.
- Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impact of alternatives.

FEMA will compile all the comments collected into a scoping report. Similar comments will be grouped and considered together to help the federal project sponsors refine the scope of the EIS (what is studied) and prepare the analysis of each alternative. Local partners include the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), Tillamook Estuary Partnership, and Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District, as well as individual donors.

Please submit your comments by June 13, 2014

Send your comments between May 14 and June 13, 2014 to any of the locations below.

Bothell, WA 98021

Online	Mail	Fax	Email
www.SouthernFlowEIS.org	FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein	(425) 487-4613	fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov
	130 - 228 th Street SW	Attention:	
	Pothall MA 09021	FEMA SFC EIS	













Tillamook What does that mean? Corridor Project

There are an an ical terms used in an EIS process. Here are some words or phrases that may be new to you:

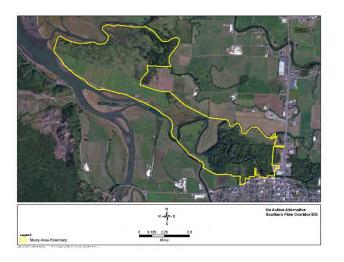
- Alternatives: These are different ways to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary.
 - No Action Alternative: No Action is used in the EIS to give a basis for comparison of the other alternatives.
- **Delta:** A river delta is the land at the mouth of a river where it flows into the ocean, lake, or reservoir. This land is formed over years from the sediment carried by the river.
- **Estuary:** a partly enclosed coastal body of brackish water (slightly salty water, but not seawater) with one or more rivers or streams flowing into it, and with a free connection to the open sea.
- **Floodplain:** Floodplains are areas of land that get filled by floodwater. Floodplain lands and adjacent waters combine to form a complex, dynamic physical and biological system found nowhere else. When portions of floodplains are preserved in their natural state, or restored to it, they provide many benefits to both human and natural systems.
- **Flowage easement:** The legal ability to flood land, while also restricting the building or maintenance of buildings on that land. However, many uses can still take place on the land, such as farming.
- **Habitat:** The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.
- **Impacts:** Having an effect on someone or something.
 - Avoid, minimize, or mitigate: These are different ways to address impacts; either stopping the impact from happening, reducing the severity of an impact, or providing something in return for the impact.
- **Levees/dikes:** Elongated naturally occurring ridge or artificially constructed berm or wall, which regulates water levels. They are usually earthen and often parallel to the course of a river in its floodplain or along low-lying coastlines.
- **Slough:** While this term is used differently across the country, on the West Coast a slough is referred to as a swamp or shallow lake system, usually a backwater to a larger body of water.
- **Swale:** A low tract of land, especially one that is wet or marshy. These can be natural or human-created features. Swales help to direct water runoff, filter pollutants, and increase the amount of rain that goes into the ground/soil, instead of rivers or drains.
- **Tidal marsh:** A type of wetland along coasts and estuaries where water levels fluctuate with the daily tides.
- **Tidegate:** An opening that lets water enter freely when the tide flows in one direction but that closes automatically and prevents the water from flowing in the other direction.
- **Threatened species:** Any species (including animals, plants, fungi, etc.) which are vulnerable to extinction due to decreased number. Oregon Coast coho are listed as a threatened species. This is a federal regulatory term established in the Endangered Species Act.
- **Wetlands:** A piece of land that is waterlogged, either permanently or seasonally. Wetlands help purify or clean water, help with the provide provid

Alternatives

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund a project to reduce flood damage and restore habitat in the Tillamook Bay estuary. FEMA will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act to document the benefits and impacts of possible alternatives to address these issues. The following alternatives may be considered in the EIS (all quantities below are estimates). Learn more at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org.

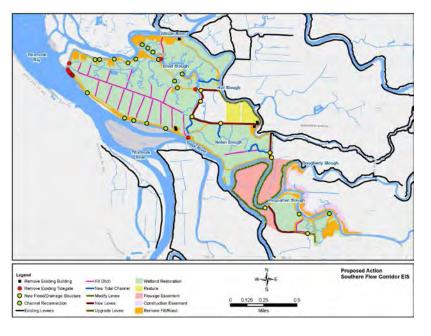
No Action Alternative

- This alternative would:
 - → not build a project
 - → not change the existing levees/dikes
 - → leave existing wetland conditions the same
 - → not restore any wetlands
 - not result in any change in flood elevations



Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative

- Developed in 2012, this alternative (proposed action) would:
 - remove 7 miles and modify 3 miles of levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area
 - build 1 mile of new levees to protect lower delta agricultural lands
 - restore 526 acres of tidal wetlands
 - require a flowage easement over 85 acres to allow high flows to pass to Tillamook Bay
 - → reduce flood elevations









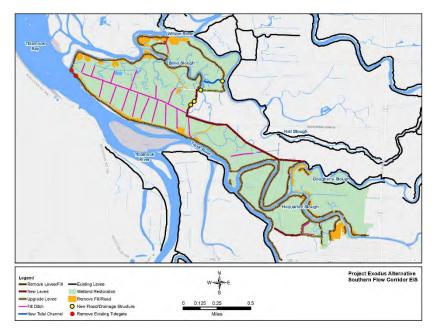






Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

- Developed in 2009 as part of the Project Exodus study, this alternative would:
 - → remove 9 miles of levees
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 - restore 715 acres of tidal wetlands
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Hall Slough Alternative

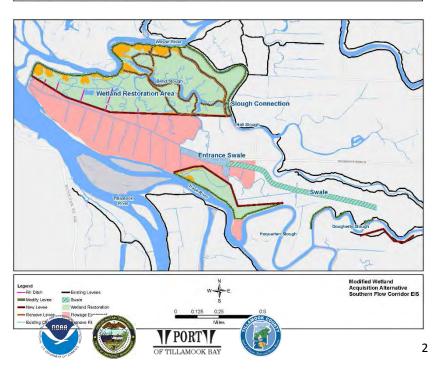
- Developed in 2002, this alternative would:
 - reconnect the upper end of Hall Slough to the Wilson River by:
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 - → restore some tidal wetlands
 - reduce 1 to 2 year "nuisance" floods

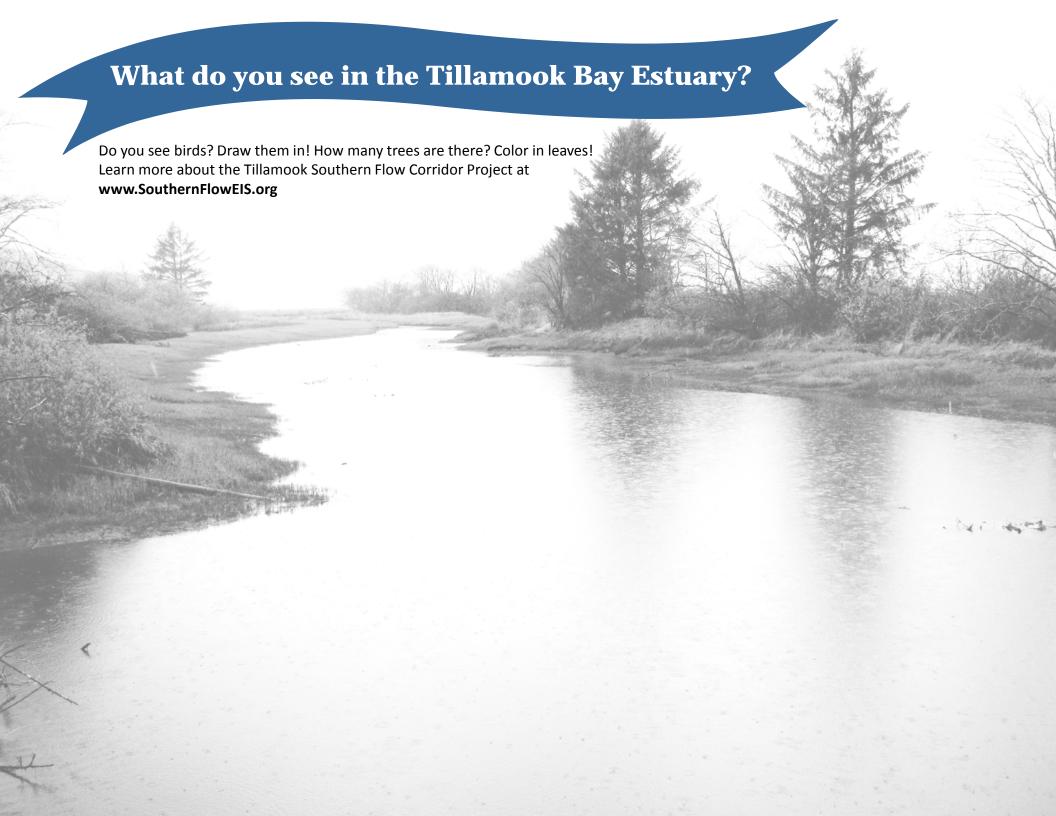
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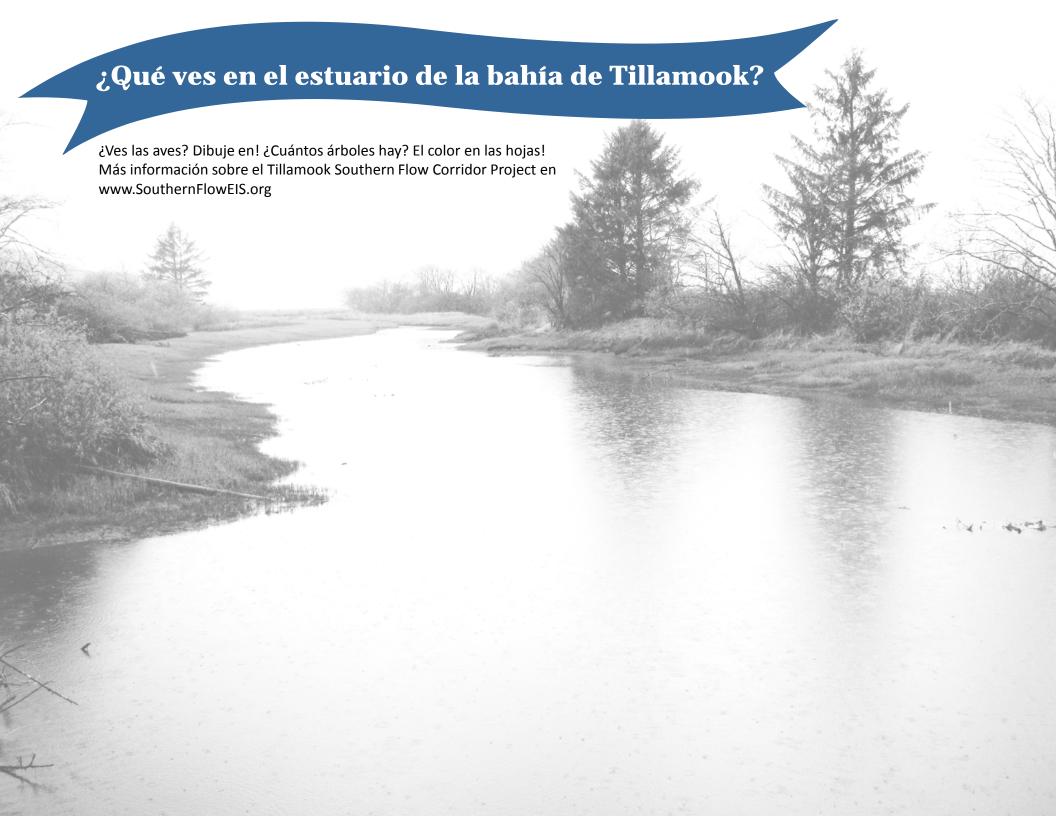
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 - ⇒ build a 1 mile swale to direct flood waters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay
 - minimally reduce flood elevations in the immediate area









Welcome

to the

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Scoping Meeting

Please sign in













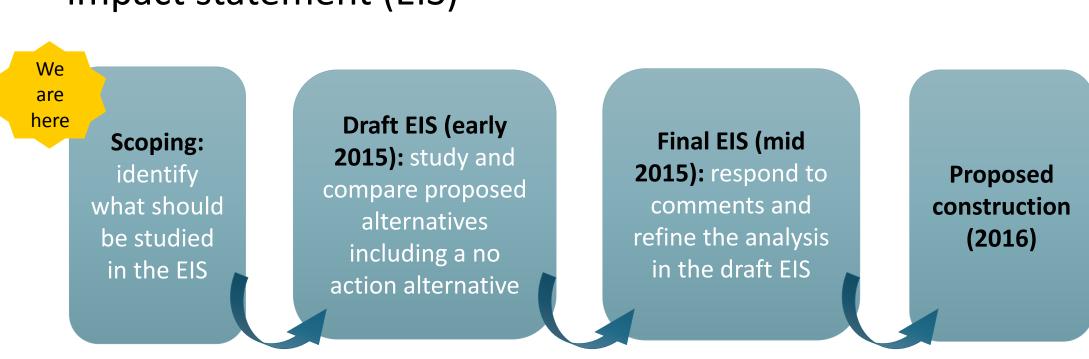
Welcome!

- At this scoping meeting you can provide input to help shape the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project environmental impact statement (EIS).
- Tonight's agenda:
 - → **5:30 p.m**. sign in
 - → **5:45 p.m.** presentation starts
 - → **6:15 p.m.** open house (talk to staff, review information, and fill out a comment form)
- Please review information and provide input on:
 - → The project's purpose and need
 - → Possible **alternatives** to addressing the purpose and need
 - → Resources that could be impacted
 - → Ways to **avoid, minimize, or mitigate** the impacts from the alternatives
- Please fill out a comment form before you leave. We want to be ear VPORTY you!



What is an environmental impact statement (EIS)?

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state and local partners are proposing to fund the project with grant funds
- To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal agencies must document the impacts and benefits of the alternatives through an environmental impact statement (EIS)



An EIS looks at a broad range of topics, including:

Natural resources

- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Wetlands
- Water quality

Community resources

- Cultural and historic resources
- Economic development
- Agricultural sustainability















Purpose and need

- The purpose of the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project is to:
 - → Reduce flood damage to property and economic losses
 - → Reduce life safety risk from floods
 - → Contribute to the recovery of Oregon Coast coho
 - → Restore historical habitat for other native fish and wildlife
- The need for this action is:
 - → The area has a history of severe repetitive flooding with widespread damage to property, road closures, and other economic losses
 - → To support recovery of threatened species and restore wetland, tidal marsh, and aquatic habitats that support fish and wildlife, which were lost through diking, draining and other land uses

Are there other reasons to write a draft environmental impact statement (EIS)?





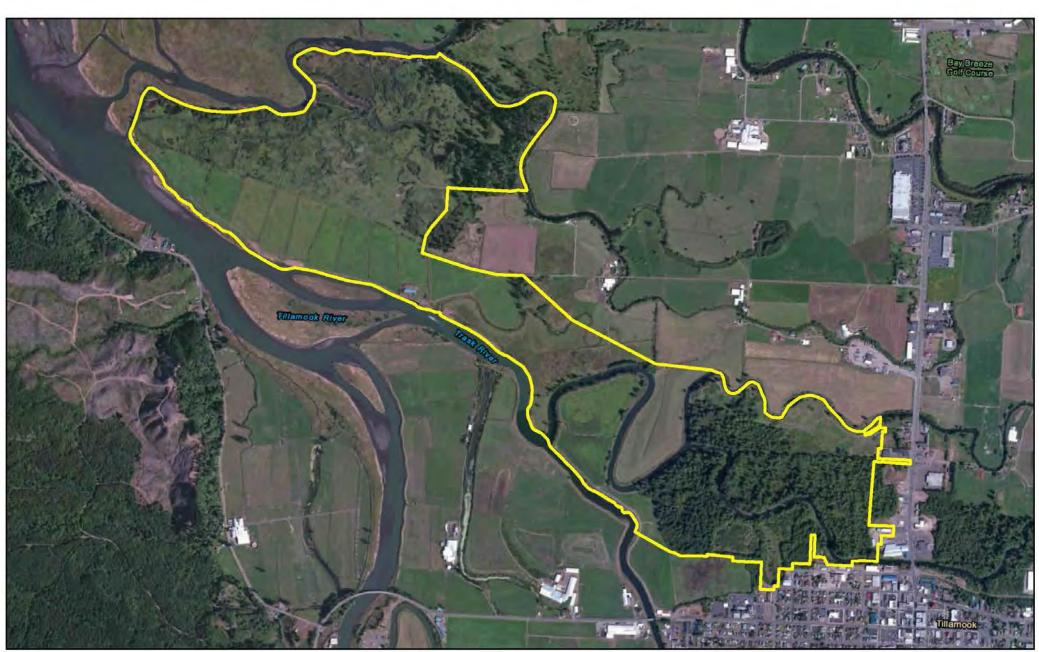


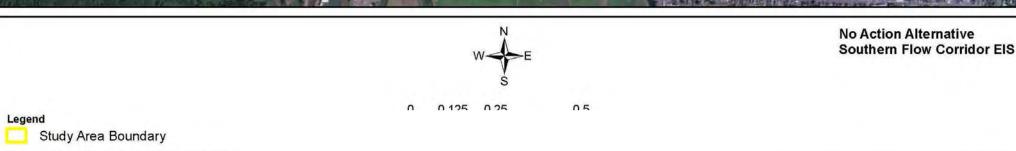




No Action Alternative

- This alternative would:
 - → not build a project
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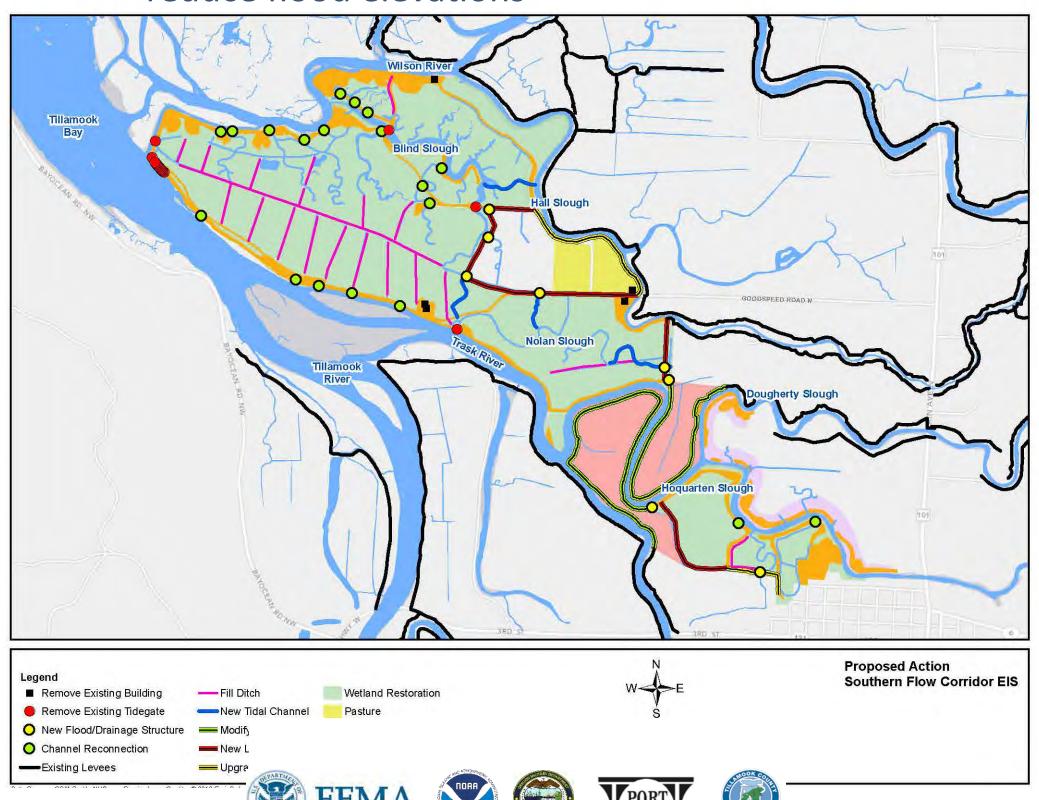




Southern Flow Corridor – Landowner Preferred Alternative

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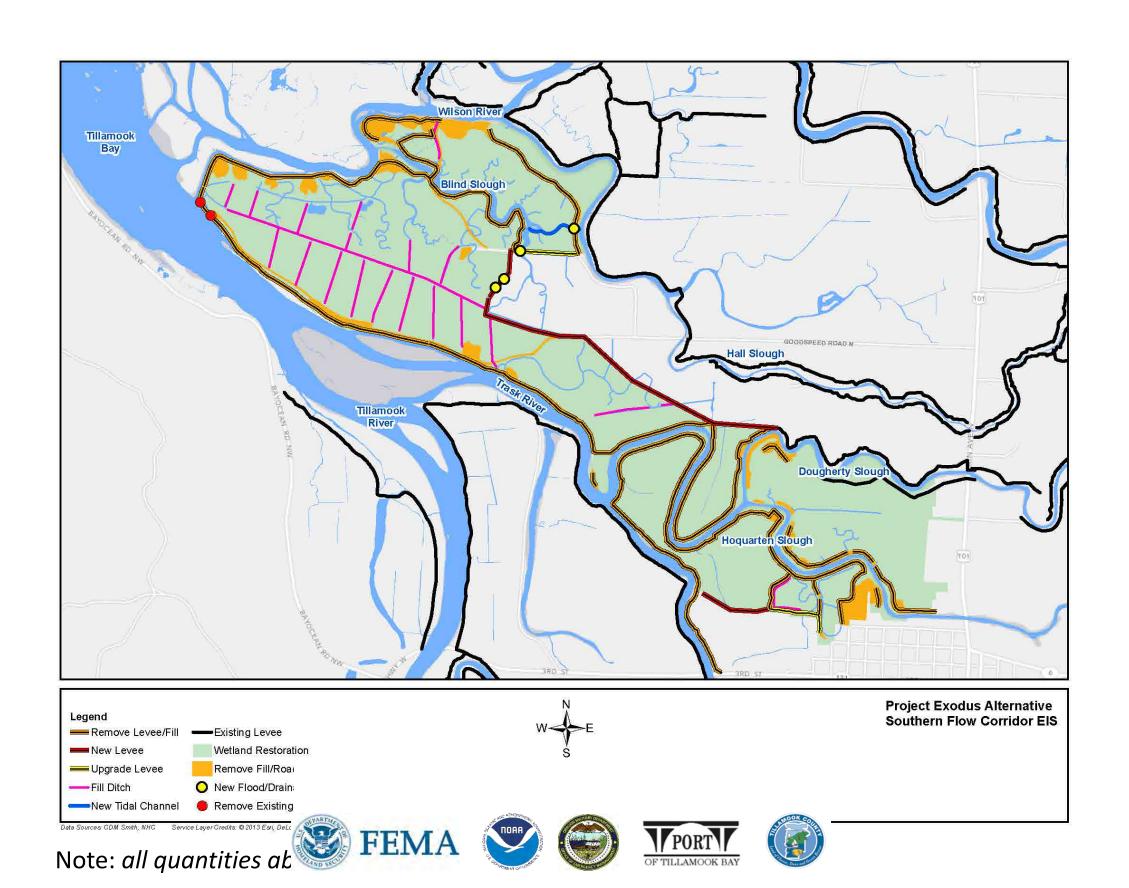
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Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

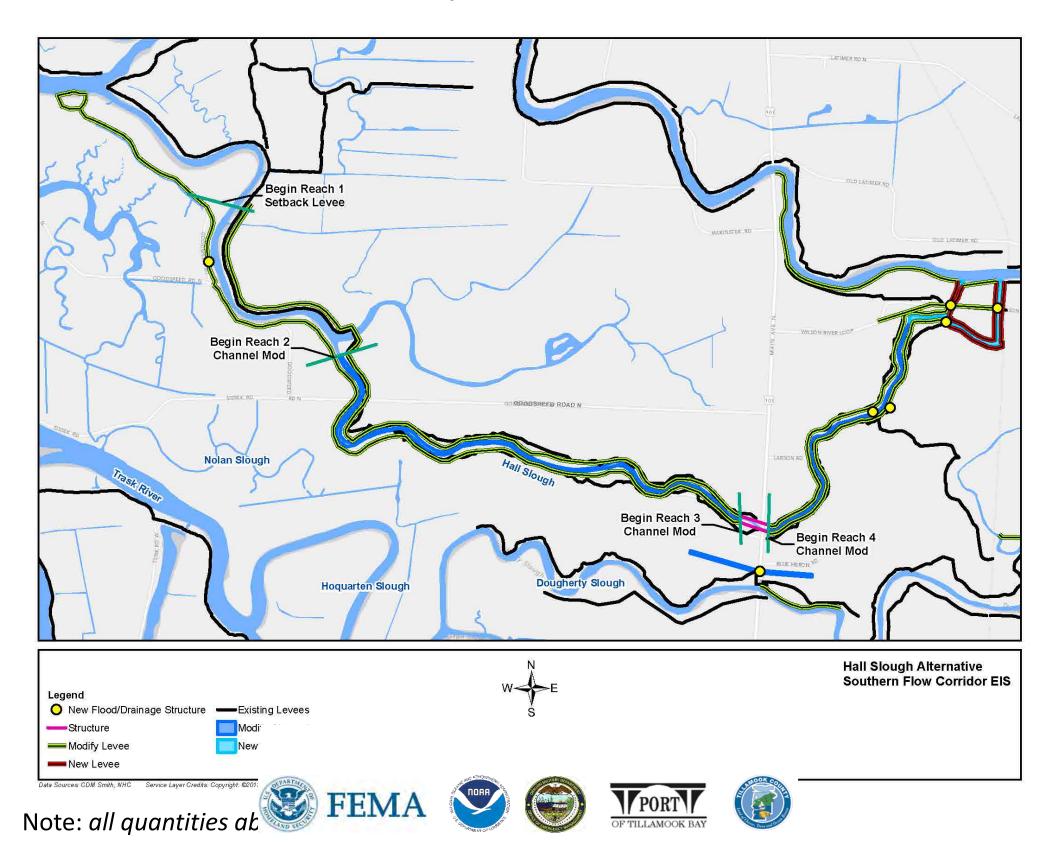
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Hall Slough Alternative

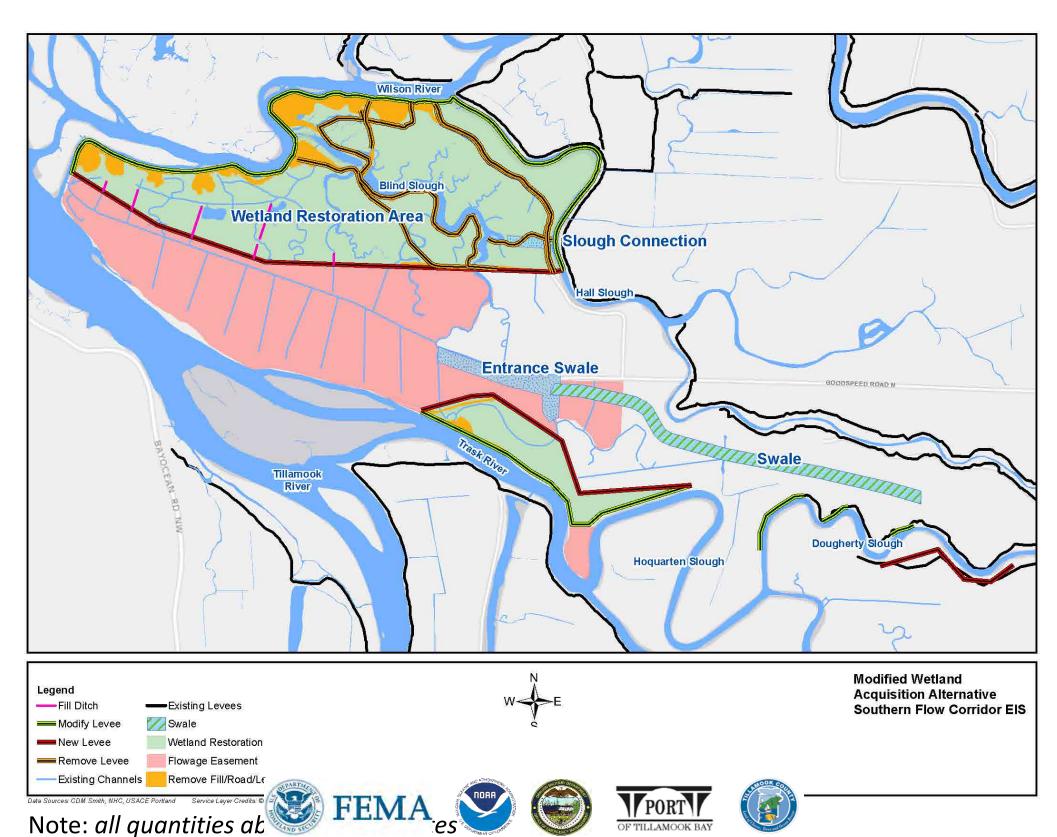
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 - reduce the 1 to 2 year "nuisance" floods





Modified Wetland Acquisition with Swale Alternative

- Developed in 2002, this alternative would:
 - remove 3 miles of levees
 - modify 3 miles and build 2 miles of levees to help protect agricultural lands and direct flows
 - restore 226 acres of tidal wetlands
 - ⇒ build a 1 mile swale to direct flood waters to a flowage easement on 175 acres before reaching Tillamook Bay
 - minimally reduce flood elevations in the immediate area



Comment

Provide written comments by June 13 by:

- Comment form: either leave it with us or mail/fax it back
- Fax: (425) 487-4613, attention FEMA SFC EIS
- Online comment form: www.SouthernFlowEIS.org
- Email: fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov
- Mail:

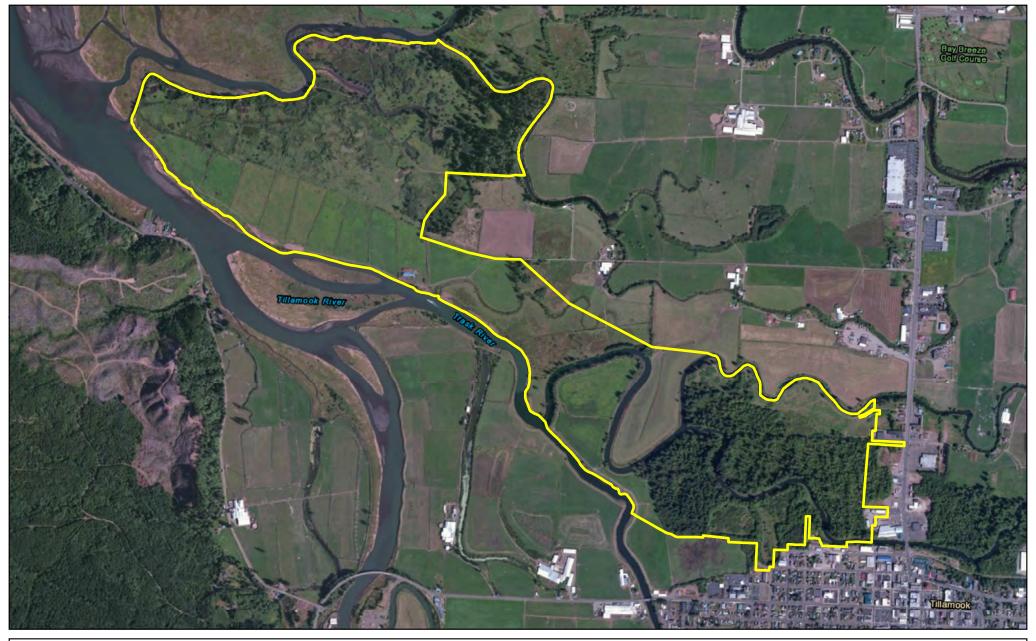
Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Next steps

After scoping, the project team will:

- Review public comments to help refine alternatives and identify topics for study in the EIS
- Use the updated purpose and need to screen alternatives
- Conduct analysis and develop the draft EIS for public review and comment

Check www.SouthernFlowEIS.org for updates!





No Action Alternative Southern Flow Corridor EIS

Appendix E

Public Comments

Date Submitted	Submitted By	Organization	Page
5/25/2014	Kuntz, L.	Nehalem Marine	E-1
5/28/2014	Anonymous		E-5
5/28/2014	Anonymous		E-6
5/28/2014	Anonymous		E-8
5/28/2014	Brabham, E. & J.		E-9
5/28/2014	Coffron, J.		E-10
5/28/2014	Rosenburg, D.	RBS Investments	E-12
5/28/2014	Thomas, C.		E-14
5/28/2014	Vellinga, L.		E-16
5/28/2014	Wells, D.		E-18
5/28/2014	Anonymous		E-20
6/2/2014	Anonymous		E-21
6/2/2014	Cameron, K.		E-22
6/2/2014		Decker Real Estate	E-27
6/4/2014	Hurliman, C.		E-29
6/6/2014	Anonymous		E-31
6/7/2014	Olsen, R.		E-32
6/7/2014	Vellinga, L.		E-34
6/9/2014	Mammano, B. & J.		E-39
6/9/2014	Meyer, G.	TCSWCD	E-40
6/11/2014		Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District	E-45
6/12/2014	Filbeck, J.		E-46
6/12/2014	Peterson, E. & J.		E-48
6/13/2014	Allen, C.		E-51
6/13/2014	Anonymous		E-53
6/13/2014	Anonymous		E-54
6/13/2014	Aufdermauer, D.		E-55
6/13/2014	Buck, D.		E-59
6/13/2014	Garrigues, R.		E-61

2014-05-25 KuntzL Nehalem Marine

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS
To: Stenberg, Kate

Cc: Eberlein, Mark; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Stewart, Jessica M

Subject: FW: Southern Flow Coridor Comments/ Tillamook

Date: Tesday, May 27, 2014 10:29:14 AM

Attachments: SHC comments.docx

Hi Kate – Forwarding public comments to the email account.

Science

From: Leo [mailto:nehalemmarine@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, May 25, 2014 7:00 PM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS **Cc:** Aaron Palter

Subject: Southern Flow Coridor Comments/ Tillamook

Please enter my comments on the record. Thanks, Leo Kuntz/ Nehalem Marine



This email is free from viruses and malware because <u>avast! Antivirus</u> protection is active.



NEHALEM MARINE MFG. 24755 MIAMI RIVER RD. NEHALEM, OR. 97131

5/23/14

FEMA Mark Eberlein 130-228th Street SW Bothell, Wash. 98021

Southern Flow Corridor Restoration/Flood Control Project

Comments:

Restoration component- This project is probably one of the best I've seen for restoration of off channel habitat. This project will serve as a rearing area that will serve the entire Miami, Kilchis, Wilson, Trask and Tillamook Watersheds. Research indicates that this type habitat plays a huge role in Salmon production and may be the limiting factor in salmon recovery. Bind Slough alone is a very substantial area OCTH (off channel tidal habitat) and the recovery of Blind Slough has been one of my goals for well over a decade.

Flood Control – The benefit I see is a huge reduction in the flood control infrastructure protecting the Tillamook area. Numerous levees, floodgates and tide gates will be eliminated. The removal of unneeded levees and reconnection of the floodplain in the Hoquarten Slough area is also a good step in increasing flood conveyance. The Tillamook area rivers and sloughs are definitely undersized to handle the amount of water delivered to the valley by approximately 50%. The only alternative to conveying all this excess flow is through floodplain reconnection (taking excess flows overland) and this project definitely does that.

I am concerned that the flood benefit from the project must equal or exceed the current of flood protection. This can be described as flood

duration as well as flood levels. My concerns fall into four categories and areas.

I believe the Northwest border of the project falls short of a very critical area along the North Bank of the Wilson. It is my view that the inability of Lower Wilson flows from reaching the bay in a unrestricted manner is the paramount problem in Tillamook flooding. This project does not address this problem even though there are some fairly simple alternatives. A very high North river bank has developed which in effect prevents excess flows from running North and into the bay. A disconnected but significant slough system already exists in this area but just lacks a connection to the Wilson. The levees slated for removal have historically forced these flows North even though the land to the South is much lower. I have always viewed Wilson flows cutting South to be a detriment and flows cutting North a benefit. This project will definitely encourage Southward flow and measures should be implemented to mitigate this.

The project decommissions a very successful operating flood relief system that represents a large public and private investment and years of work. Extreme care must be implemented to insure the project actually produces a benefit in light of this cost. A large flood storage basin will be eliminated that currently allows flood storage during high flow /hightide events. A corridor is presently maintained in agriculture which provides a very important maintenance element and has prevented the "floodway" from being restricted. The North 101 business and farm community has a very small elevation differential over a very long distance to the discharge point near Memaloose Point. The system currently operates on only a few feet and any restriction at all in that area would be a detriment to that area. Having a agricultural corridor has guaranteed that this critical corridor remain unrestricted. This corridor will be left to nature post project and the conveyance of the corridor may be at risk. In any event modeling of all classes of flood event from nuisance to major should be carefully undertaken. Some plan B should be included in the event the corridor becomes more restricted in the future due to the project. This corridor represents the last unobstructed route to convey North Tillamook flood water directly to the bay.

A new cross levee at the West side of the Beeler property with floodgates and tide gates is proposed. A levee had been located in about

the same stop up to about 1999. It was extremely problematic and was removed at that time resulting in a definite flood reduction. I am concerned the storage behind the proposed levee is inadequate for both agricultural drainage and flood storage. Again carefully conducted modeling should be conducted to insure the area East of this levee does not become "flashy" during times when high tides and high river flows exist. It may be the levee needs be moved West and a storage basin created on project lands behind the proposed levee.

My last concern involves what we have labeled the "Wiley Factor". The - Wiley factor can occur when reconnection projects greatly increase the - volume of tidal exchange conveying in adjacent waterways. The - increased volume tends to occupy the low end of the tide cycle and the - extreme low water level actually increases to a higher level permanently. - Unfortunately many of our levied agricultural areas have been subject to - major subsidence since settlement. Many of these areas are at such a low - elevation that they are only provided drainage at the very lowest point of - the tide cycle. In the event the project does increase the low tide level in - adjacent waterways the effect on these ag lands could be disastrous. This - project has the possible potential to trigger this effect. The properties that - have a risk of effect are located in Peterson, Stillwell, Lower Trask and - Tillamook River Districts. The project engineer is as well versed in this - problem of any I know. As with the other potential problems, modeling - should show if there is indeed a threat. -

These comments are a result of my extensive work and research within - the project area over the last 16 years. My company has been - instrumental as a design build contractor in every flood control project in - this area for those years. Reams of data have been collected and - processed in a effort to understand the flood problems in Tillamook. The - data collected includes actual flood event monitoring (365/24) in this - remote area before, during and after countless flood events. I feel my - "flood study" has left me with a pretty good grasp on how this system - functions. A number of flood control projects have been designed and - built as a result of our study all with good results. I offer these comments - as constructive components in a effort to deliver the folks of Tillamook - the best possible project. -

With Full Sincerity, -Leo Kuntz/ Nehalem Marine Mfg. -

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement



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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project
need smaller project on public lands.
need muller project on public lands proposed project on public lands proposed project Excess (VE (over kell) by w provate property buy outs of tappayer w Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need
Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need
Edredge 10 natural rivers and sloughes + bay, 4 needles
Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) # provide = agriculture & business problem = fublic pagety

valuable i held wouldnow of

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

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Il Reduce flooding; domage to property + roads.
Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need
Dredge to make water courses deeper - water would
then be coolen - diedae boy - good monagement
Should home seem deteches, streams & boys dredged Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources)
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resources) repeatedly for mointen,
ignicilture a sconomia development, residenteal,
igniculture a sconomica development, residenteal, commercial, infrastacetiere (roads etc.)
Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)
Good citizens, good families
Other (use back or attach pages)

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There is another consideration that how not been mentioned. The current management - or lack of management of the government controlled forkests is going to course colostrophic fixes - Not "if" best when. The burned over hills will evode into the revers, then into the boy - when the water gets to a lesser gradient, the pilt + pidiment well sittle out, felling the pilt + pidiment well sittle out, felling the looking the wever, sloughs + boy - decreasing the Capacity even more and making the flooding ruich Worse with even a minor doin storm.

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	Please mail comments by June 13, 2014	
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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



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Purpose and need for the project

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Does this project meet FEMA's no rise standards?

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) Forms that waters will pass that use on the attack in Reed's as well as pesticides that will pass before small, go nto filler Reedens and interior intervell water who will munitar these levels as well as lead/machine chemicals from form equational as well as levels afternials in the esturies that build in fatty tissues of native are as a well as levels afternials in the esturies that

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

mony of these clemicals have long half lifes, radicand established conditions parting in tidal conditions parting in tidal flood gates, tax dellers, our tax dellers and new this proposes spending.

Other (use back or attach pages) my rederal tax dellers to remove them to haid more gates, in a threat places; for a net change of 0-7 inches of change a flood water depth change at most the reality is, flood damage is flood damage; tragic but unavaidable at time is and this project will not steep flooding only waste redeal finds.

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ed : Jan Brabham Po Box 5738 Pah Rum P, NV 503 720 7728 Cell 175751 1886

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Purpose and need for the project

Flood control and habitat restoration to facilitate economic development in the area, which could benefit with Flood reduction Levels

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

It is very obvious that every river & Slough NEEDS to be dredged and cleaned out to restore original flows for both benefits - flood control and habited restoration Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) High way 101 Frontage properties should be developable For the benefit of the community

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

The Fishermen that pouched on the Banks of Doughenty slough in

the early 80's every Sept. Stopped coming when the Fish

Stopped coming in the Late 80's

Other (use back or attach pages) We have owned a commercially zoned 8 acre property on thury 101 across From Blue Heron plus 6 acres in the farm zone Fore 34 years without success with any of the proposed projects that we have tried to do. Our property has not too Long ago been redesignated as Flood way rather than Flood plain, so we are very challenged. FEMA Won't buyus out as there

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).

Are no building 5. Yet.



Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement



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Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

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Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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RBS Investments, Inc.

Mail: P.O. Box 224
Tillamook, OR 97141
Office Phone 503 842-4191
Office Fax 503 842-4081
Cellular 503 936-5589

May 28, 2014

To: FEMA

Re: Tillamook proposed SFC

I have been suffering flood losses, and have been involved in relief efforts, since the devastating flood of 1964. Over the years my losses total somewhere in excess of \$1 Million. Possibly over \$2 Million. NFIP chargeable losses would also exceed \$1 Million.

In order to solve the losses at the lumber yard, Rosenberg Builders Supply, Inc., a substantial protection system has been constructed, the design of which came from the FEMA's own Floodproofing book. In addition the method of stocking a 10-acre business has change, many at added expense. The costs, which were not subsidized by government, are somewhere between .5 and 1 \$ Million.

Also, those costs are on-going as flood levels continue to increase due to the lower drainage system continuing to deteriorate. While the Rosenberg protection system has prevented any losses in recent years, and prevented any NFIP claims, it is expensive to maintain and improve. Because of those costs, and because of lost sales during floods, relief is critical to the future of the business.

The retail business has been sold, but I still own approximately 60 acres of land bordering Hoquarton Slough west of 101. A commitment to allow that land to be used in the SFC project was given, subject to the plan meeting the goals of the Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District [TBHEID]. Currently there are enough concerns and questions that my support is not guaranteed.

After 50 years of involvement, I can't list all of the concerns in a letter. I will list a few below.

- Current engineering indicates minimal improvement in the north 101 area for floods that have previously been classed as 100-year events.
- Substantial changes to existing relief systems, i.e. levees, tidegates, and spillways, that have proven to be beneficial have yet to be adequately justified.
- Several major components of the "original" plan have not been included. Those include:
 - a. restoring the capacity of the rivers and sloughs
 - b. venting of sloughs at critical points to compensate for the diminished capacity of rivers
 - c. opening of blocked side channels with methods that benefit both habitat and drainage
- 4. Altering levees and channels that have worked for 100+ years needs guaranteed proof of results
- Current engineering shows an increase in water levels in some areas.
- The project does not have universal local support.

TBHEID does not support projects that create harm to the habitat. Fortunately existing science does show habitat gain from the same projects that restore drainage capacity. Conflict is seldom, if ever, necessary.

The original plan, TBHEID's Lower Trask Wilson Restoration Project, was the basis for the SFC. That plan was developed over 10 years with the involvement of the ACOE, Dr. Reckendorf, a geomorphologist, Dr. Mc Neil, a salmon habitat specialist, Harbor Engineering, Nehalem Marine, and a wide cross section of experienced local citizens. The \$3.3 Million ACOE study blessed only this plan of the many submitted for analysis. Omitting critical parts of the TBHEID plan will not be not acceptable to the local community.

More in-depth discussion of the above points is available by contacting me in person.

Yours truly

Doug Rosenberg

Cellular 503-936-5589

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



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Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

ommunity resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic
esources) /
How will this impact the form area between
community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic esources) How will this in part the farm area between the Trask & Tillamook rivers where the Trask Tillamook Bypas is?
latural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)
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Entire over between Doughet to Hogiston needs a flooding easement. (Buildings in over? - removedoz?)
The state of the s

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



The small slough fingers between Blind slough and the Trusk view may need to assessed for sediment type (fine sludge) + some possibly considered for removal.

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Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Clair Thomas

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Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project**

Environmental Impact Statement



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l ha	we specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.
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Trable River - an sonthwest finck of Trask River.

Over the course of umptern years, the month of the Trask knew has been restricted. He creates mon floodwater coming across line summest first of the Trask River. We have as many across in most area as in the proposed poper area. In 1996, we had 300 animals of the lower trask Dannage District. 760 harses were undamater in 1994 and 1999. Because of the blockage, if cuts off from Run entry the southwest section of the Trask River.

If they open the physed area up, to ever more hater will be proposed into the surtness! Trask drainage. Deadlessed Almost Zentrack are flooded in that area in a major flood event.

project should address lower Trask River flooding as well as the proposed project area. As designed, we project many just push more nate into the trask drainage system.

Yealth nace going to stop the Mooding. The bool solution will get Mood hales out quickly. Avoid creating damage during flood acents.

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503	-842-403L	f				-
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Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



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Very good idea to advers flooding, I live on the perchet perched gives bank along the Track River Would not want any alternative to raise the flood level at my residence

I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Cor	mmunity resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic
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n	I believe diadge spill were used to create the levers. There are artifacts in them and it would be good to have an opportunity to explice conserve their toping. Retain the bridge structure at Blind Slough tural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)
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	Kiter and bald page (e)

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	community resources cont.
	This is an important (or will be) conomic engine to Tillamook for those redsing an environmal experience and app current roads could be converted to trails but human recreational access should be maintained.
	could be converted to trails but human recreational accert
	There are some of the activities I have participated in
45-	- houting
	- trail ranning - bird watching
Fold	- hiking - dating Cit is a marvelour area to go as a date)
	This area is close to Tillamook 5 was for a really good walk strails within 5 wiles and this one is the best.
	· Maintain the route for a trail to there is access

Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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David Colls Z390 NIELSE

TICHMOOK ON 97141

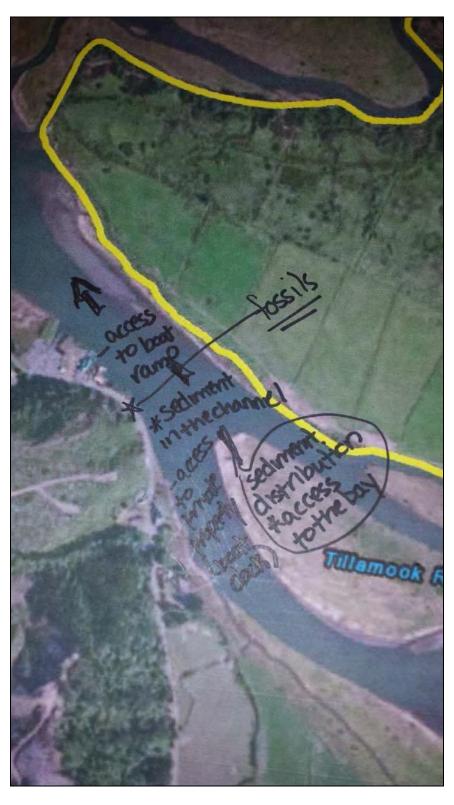
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To



Public comment written on large scale project area map

From what I see Southern Flow Corridor project will be a great asset towards provideing habitat For wild Life and juvenile salmonoid. My one concern wis what it would do to the sport Fishery For adult salmon returning to the Wilson Frank of Tilbamook River. This area in Front of Memoloose book Ramp north to Bay City is a very popular and productive Fishery. Thousands of Fishermen Flak to this area during the spring food and fall to catch returning Fish my question would be will this project increase the sediminatation problems or would it infact improve the problem our entire bay is now experiencing and has For many years.

Half Stough needs to be reopened. By reopening this drains - it help eliviate the Flooding on Hostol From Fred Meyers South to Goodspeed Rd.

Please mail comments by June 13, 2014-

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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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To Mark Eberlein Souther flow Corridor believe this should be done along with the Hall slough Alternative I grew up in Tillamook with the carly years in a logging camp in the Tillamook Burn. This was a time of much erosion and muddy rivers. When we moved to town Tremember the farmers fields after flooding were covered with logs and sit. By this time the major logging of The Tillamook Burn was mostly done The log rafts were gone along with The Tug boats. By the late 60's Fearly 70's the Tillamook Burn was greening up and the evosion was slowed down. Yet The Tillamock Bay was much deeper and the clam digging in the Bay was very good. moved away from Tillamook but frequented the area very often. RECEIVED: JUN 0 2 2014 FEMA REGION X

I remember which I was hing here my folks and several others couldn't believe they closed Hall Slough, Long time area residents were appalled when they closed The culver's and rechanneled the Welson River. In the 80's \$90'S I was away from the area. About 5-7 years ago I returned more frequently and again started using The day more frequently. Some where between The late 70's until 2008 the bay became much shallower. Since 2010 until 2014 the bay has become much more shallow, overall and is filling in at a very rapid vate. I know OSU has spent many hours on The bay doing lots of different research presects. To me I thing it you could gather aerial Photos of the bay from 1966-1970 and compare low tides of that Period of Time to present day you'll See what has happened

My overall concern is that by doing This southern flow corridor & the Hell Slough Project you will add more 5,1+ to the bay, With the laws today it will be impossible to over dredge the bay so This is my main concern, The way the Wilson River & the Kilchis River empty into the Bay at low Tide you can welk across in Knee boots What the locals call the Sheer correll and The DolPhan is filling in at an alarming What is unusal is Dougherty Slough before Hoguarton Slough has remained relatively unchanged and is guite deep. Thanks for your Time Ken Cameron Polson Mt 59860

In Con Clusion I feel that removing the 7 miles and modify 3 miles of levees is something that will help fish habitat and is a worthwhile project & will enhance The estuary. Reopening Hall Slough will also have much betty flood restriction's Than your estimites and will also be very what ever you did decide be careful of adding more silt to an already Shallow Bay.

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Fema c/o Mark Eburlein 130-228th Street SW իսլՄբԱդինմԱրիսՈՒիմոմՈրդՈսԱրիրդեմոր

98621

Washington

Bothell,

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

- → Project's purpose and need
- Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
- Resources that could be impacted
- ₩ Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

Comments submitted by June 13, 2014 will become part of a scoping report, which will help the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and other partners determine what to study in the environmental impact statement.

I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project
10 direct the flood stage water flow coming out of the mountain in
A Now distributive designated path to the Bay as quick by as possible

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

I like the HAN Slough Alternative Plant, to gethe with opening up and
improving Dougheety and Hogunater Sloughs Allowing water to
flow Swifty to the Bay.

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic

resources) Widening and deepening the sloughs would Allow A Natural Glushing during the high water events while taking it out to The Bay gurchee. The sloughs are ugly and unkept. The could be useful and an enjoyable part of our Community.

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

IN YEARS PAST I have dofreed MANY Sisheemen with Poles in the water At Hall Slough West of Huy. 101. A lot of fish were Caught There. Allowing the steering to Flush would being them back to Irfand healthy Again.

Other (use back or attach pages)

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



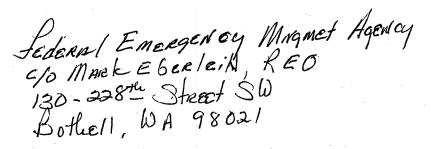


"your key to the coast"

615 Main Avenue Tillamook, Oregon 97141



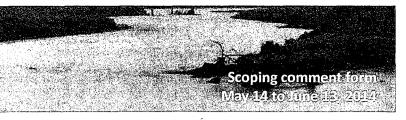
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Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

Maintaining a better habitat for all aquatic creatures as well as relief from flooding.

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Lowering levee elevations from approximately 15 ft. to about 11ft.. Cleaning existing ditches to a depth that allows water layering to occur and installing fish passage tide gates.

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources)

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

We have a wintering area off the beaten path for wintering water foul in the existing low lying pasture land and the existing ditches and sloughs provide side channel habitat for fish.

Other (use bac

The effect of a continual loss of pasture land is placing added pressure on remaining pasture land from wintering water foul such as ducks and geese. The increasing concentrations of water foul on the remaining land has two major effects; 1) some pastures the grasses have been eaten down to a point were the farmer needs to reseed the pasture 2) fecal matter from water foul in the winter time has put rivers out of compliance with DEQ. In turn our farmers are blamed for bad practices. This area has been a curltural/historic site for water foul hunting.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



I don't believe the farm protection act was taken into account when designing this project.

Alternative to this project; is to lower levee elevations, clean out ditches and sloughs. These actions would reduce flooding and create habitat.

On the west coast we have practiced a limited ideas of habitat creation for aquatic life. And man has no place in the Biodiversity conversation. The following examples explain; in the lower Salmon river basin (north of Lincoln City) levees were removed protecting farm pasture lands. Results were 1) after a few years the unmaintained ditches filled in, in turn reduced numbers of returning adult salmon. 2) pastures were lost so the water foul moved north to the Nestucca basins and the Elk moved across Hwy 101 to the last pastures in the basin.

In later years through efforts of the USFW farmland was purchased for the propose of protecting goose habitat. After a few years of ownership of the land USFW finialy understood the value of maintaining pasture land. Now USFW is managing pasture land in the Little Nestucca basin. Yet the reduction of total pasture land in the Little Nestucca basin has moved some of these geese to the Big Nestucca basin.

In conclusion; it is very possibly to work with farmers to create habitat and reduce flooding. This project could provide habitat for threatened species by deepening existing ditches to a depth that would allow water layering to occur. With layered water the depth provides protection for salmon smolt at the same time would provide the feed just above in the warmer water.

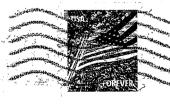
Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021



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Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project**

Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

- Project's purpose and need
- Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
- → Resources that could be impacted
- Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

6/3/2004

Purpose and need for the project

To Help Tillamook from Drowning + accessible!

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Dredge the Rivers They dredge in 1975 (?) It was cost effective for 20 years.

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic

ources)
I am adjoining property to this project. I feel the ground water, hydrology in a few to several years will elevate and sodium levels will be a deterant for earlier grasses, growth of yields!

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

I feel you will be financially liable for our family farm. If all goes well. No Harm done. Thank You.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



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June 7, 2014

Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, Wa 98021

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project, Scoping Comment

The alternatives given for discussion by your group do not really permit a full opportunity to challenge the wisdom for justifying the project at all.

The project was presented to FEMA three times before FEMA would accept the cost benefit ratio as satisfactory. This alone should alert the justification for accepting the project. Any group can plug figures together given enough opportunities to come up with the answer that FEMA wanted.

FEMA has to justify only \$ 3.3 million. The estimated cost of the project is less than \$10 million. Does the analysis consider the total cost of the project? The field work must be completed within one construction season. With many things dependant on weather there is no doubt that cost over-runs would occur to meet the deadline for completion.

What figure was used to justify the cost benefit ratio to meet the required level?

Water Flow Discussion

In all agency presentations of this project the need for all the dike removal was because the flood waters from the Wilson River flowed toward the South from the Wilson to Hoquarten Slough. Leading all novices to believe that removing 7 miles of levies would permit the water to flow from the Wilson watershed more readily and reduce flooding by approximately 1 foot.

Since water flows downhill then the elevation of the major dike to the Wilson River would be Highway 101. Excluding the sloughs the elevation of the Highway is 14 feet at Rosenbergs on the South and 12 feet on the North and then varies to 13 feet at the Coop to 14 feet at the intersection at the South edge of Fred Meyer. Just West of Fred Meyer the land drops from 10 feet to eventually 8 feet which is the elevation at blind slough. Water should flow from any point along the highway to blind slough as well as points South which also is at that same elevation. If there is a Southern flow it is created by Highway 101.

To reduce the adverse environmental affects of the proposed project just remove the dike that affects the blind slough area which would release flood water to Tillamook Bay as well as providing free access for fish to blind slough. This would then tend to support the modified wetland acquisition with swale alternative.

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Environmental considerations

The projects area has an existing complex environmentally sensitive system. All scoping proposals will adversely affect the established sensitive areas of concern. For example one resident who lives in this area and is an avid fisherman told me that in every small ditch he had seen small fish. He did not say what kind but would confirm the fact these water ways are now supporting some kind of fish. The landowner preferred alternative would fill these ditches and destroy that environment.

That same alternative would remove the trees in the floodway- especially where existing dikes exist. A surveyor working on this project said that many different birds were seen – one being an owl that resembles the spotted owl. I'm sure your investigation will confirm that no endangered species will be affected within the project area.

The landowner preferred alternative also seems to impact the land more than the other proposals. How much disturbed soil will 7 miles of levees create? That same proposal work sheet has the existing ditches, excluding the blind slough area, be filled which also creates more exposed bare soil. All this work must be done in one construction season in an environmentally sensitive zone. How can all this be justified by reducing flood elevations by 1 foot? Already FEMA has restrictions on building along Highway 101. Will reducing the flood elevation by 1 foot change those building restrictions? Will the long term cost benefit really justify the total cost of this project.. When the area is impacted with heavy rainfall plus snow melt in December and January at the same time high tides exceed 9 feet will this 1 foot reduction even be meaningful.

Submitted by:

Robert J. Olsen

4701 Holly Heights Avenue

Walt Olsen

Tillamook, Or 97141

My name is Leon Vellinga. I was born and raised and had a dairy on the South Fork of the lower Trask River. Until 1996 I though I had seen every conceivable flood. Then the floods of 1996 and 1999 Came. In 1996, in our District, the lower Trask Drainage District, almost 300 dead animals, 7 houses flooded, barns flooded with almost a million dollars in damage. After the 1996 flood I got involved in several Flood control groups. We came up with several options. 1) Open up the upper mouth of the south Fork to allow for better watermovement. @ Clean up and widen the lower end of the River by widening the channel to the Tillamook River. a bypass channel between the marina and KTIL radio station to take the top end of the freshet out. In the met 2000 we were told that to have proper drainage the North end (Tillamook Southern How Corridor Project) would have to and Trask Drainage Districts project would have to be done at the same time to insure proper drainage in the Lower Trask Drainage District. In my opinion, if you do the Southern Flow Cornidor Project, you will be putting more water into the Tillamook using a slower down of drainage

Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Also, it would be pushing more water into the upper opening of the Trask into the South Fork of the Trask.

What happened to all the data that we compiled?

What happened to all the data that we compiled? You cannot stop a flood but you can try to control it. This project on the South Fork would help to control the floods.

By opening up the upper South Fork, it would improve the habitat for the fish and especially.

The native Cohos the used that River for rearing.

Sincerely Leon Vellinga

Leon Vellinga

P.S. Please see enclosed pictures.

503-842-4/634

Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

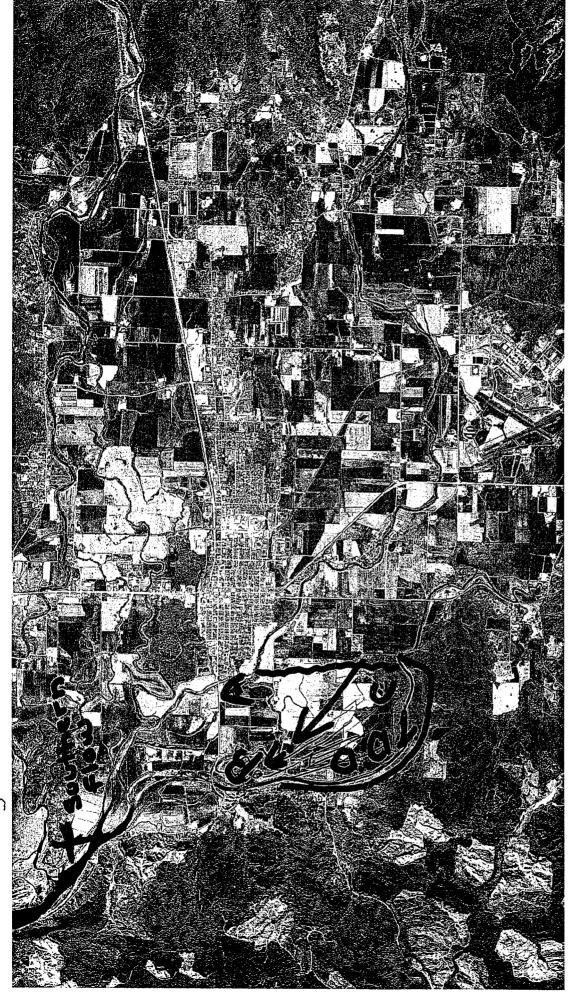
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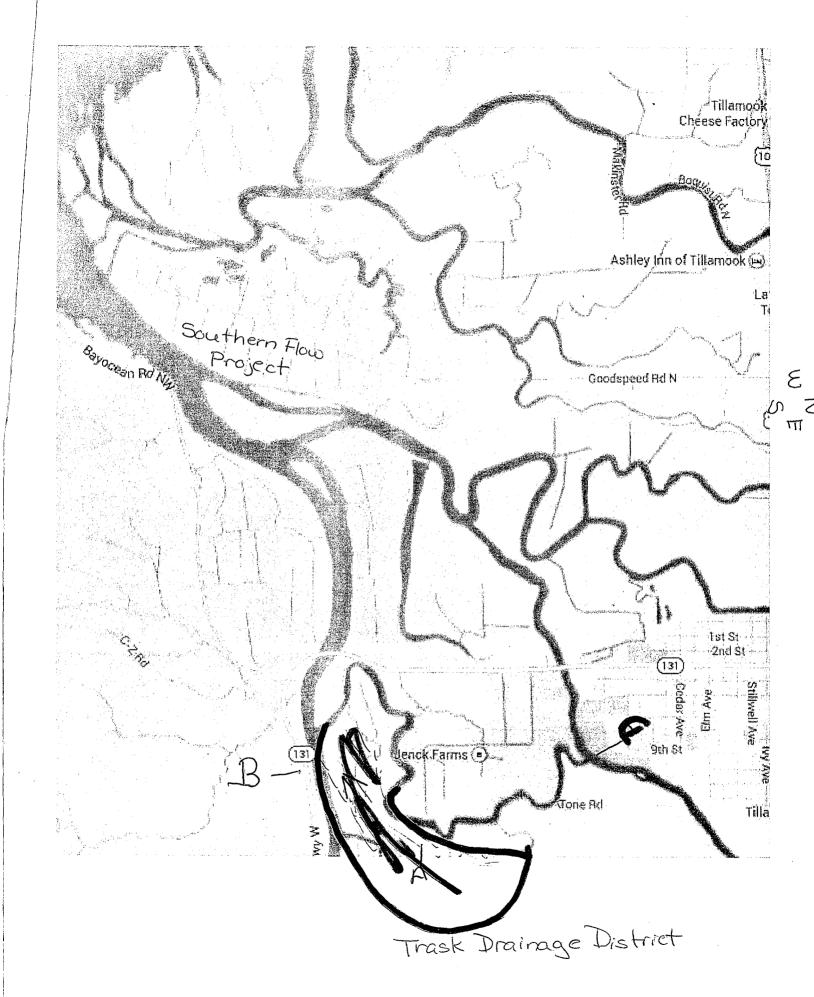
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3

The It is my belief that the Southern Flow Project would impact The drainage in the Trask Trainage District Corridor

Page E-36



A. Upper mouth SW Fork of the Lower Trask - As you can see, it is doingested and needs to be cleaned out for flood control and fish habitat.

B. An illegal dike was built in the early 1970's around the marina (see dotted red line). Over the years it has narrowed the Tillamot River and causes the water to flow up River, slowing the flow of water.





C. This is where we wanted to put the by pass channel.

D. Lower mouth of the Trask.

Subject: FW: Barry and Judy Mammano

----Original Message-----

From: Barry and Judy Mammano [mailto:jmammano39@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 3:09 PM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Barry and Judy Mammano

Submitted on Monday, June 9, 2014 - 15:08 Submitted by anonymous user: [66.189.150.179] Submitted values are:

Name: Barry and Judy Mammano Mailing Address: PO Box 171

City: Rockaway Beach

State: Oregon ZIP: 97136

Email: jmammano39@gmail.com

Comment:

We feel our local citizens need to be listened to. We have lived here all of our lives and have seen many changes in our waterways. Too many agency people do not have the experience we would like to see. We would like to know what will happen if this SFC project makes the flooding worse? Will things be put back the way they were? If so, who will pay for this?

We need to clean out the sloughs and keep them that way. We feel this should be done first, before the SFC project to see what benefits we get. There are no fish in them because they are full of silt. Just look at them when the tide is out.

The results of this submission may be viewed at: http://www.southernfloweis.org/node/5/submission/4

Subject:

FW: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Environmental Impact Statement

From: Gus Meyer [mailto:gusmeyer9@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 10:10 AM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Environmental Impact Statement

Attention: Mark Eberlein, 130 - 228th Street SW., Bothell, WA., 98201

Date: June 09, 2014

Tillamook SFC_LPA EIS Request (Attention: Mark Eberlein)

Clean Water Act:

- Hoquarton Slough
 - Heavy algae concentration.
 - Years of Low Oxygen monitoring by Tillamook Estuaries Partnership.
 - Tillamook High School science award for monitoring New Zealand Mud Snail population for some 2 to 3 years.
 - o Boaters, kayakers, THS, and Nehalem Marine have reported dead and dying ("whirling") fish presence.
 - Restricted quality tidal prism and fresh water flow, due to slough and Trask River bed aggradations and active vegetation in the channel. (Manning formula)
- Dougharty Slough
 - Moderate algae concentration.
 - Landowner has reported no upper slough project area fishermen presence in recent years.
 - Heavily restricted quality tidal prism and fresh water flow, due to slough bed aggradations and heavy active vegetation in the channel (see immediately East of US 101 at Blue Heron property). (Manning formula)
- Hall Slough
 - Moderate to heavy algae concentration.
 - o Landowner has reported fish disappearance within Project area.
 - Landowner reported light concentrations of New Zealand Mud Snails.
 - Restricted quality tidal prism and fresh water flow, due to slough bed aggradations and active vegetation in the channel. (Manning formula)

Right to Farm Act:

- Wilson farm property qualifies as hi-value farmland by Oregon statute.
 - Current farmland operation qualifies support for some 320 to 400 dairy animals for USDA CAFO Farm Management Plan Operations.
 - o SLC_LPA Project area impacts will diminish this farmland operation.

Pre-Monitoring Comparables:

- Jenkins property 16 Acre Parcel EFH, 2012 water channel restoration for fish and 3,500 trees and shrubs for habitat. (In SFC_LPA Project area)
- Jenkins 16 acre property restoration post monitoring report.
- Miami Cove Project water channel restoration for fish with trees and shrubs for habitat. (Pre and Post Project Monitoring)
- Establish Pre-Monitoring of All Project Area ditches, sloughs, and water channels.

Floodwater Management:

- 20 to 100 year floods will close US 101 with implementation of SFC_LPA Project.
- Project will shutdown business operations in the Project area during flooding.
- Landowners typically spend two to five days to clean up siltation deposits at end of flooding.
- Shilo Levee is failure prone (County 2014 Federal Priority #2).

FEMA Bought out Repeated Flooding Properties:

- Numerous business properties have been bought out to reduce FEMA Property Mitigation Costs and improve Flood Water flow.
- FEMA and Land Use regulations can permit new buildings at three feet above flood elevation.

FEMA Community Rating System:

- Commitment to increased landowner/business/farm FEMA CRS subsidies for implementing the SFC_LPA Project.
- FEMA commitment to Flood Mitigation support upon implementation of SFC_LPA Project.

FEMA Floodway Easements in Perpetuity:

- I have found record of two FEMA Floodway Easements in Perpetuity on the Tillamook County Wetlands Project.
- I remember there having been three, but can't find the third document of record.

<u>Tidal Water Management:</u>

• Tillamook fathers put in the levees and USACE a number of dikes to restrict high tidal impacts to North Tillamook. Project removes some 7,500 feet of levees and lowers some current dikes two to three feet. Tidal waters of 10 feet and over have potential to flood portions of US 101 (review updated Hydrodynamic Model).

Tsunami Developed and Published Plan:

- Oregon DOGAMI has surveyed and published a Tsunami Plan for Tillamook North US 101 with current levees and dikes.
- Project impact to the established Tsunami Plan not mentioned by the Project Team.

Project Single Point of Control:

• Proposed Memorandum of Agreement and Novation Agreement Statement doesn't clearly articulate single point of SFC_LPA Project control.

Hydrologic Study:

- Hydrodynamic Model is being updated by Northwest Hydrologic Consultants to mechanical survey point information (versus LIDAR point measurements).
- Hydrologic Study only references tidal flow from Tillamook County/USACE Feasibility Study, with current levees and dikes.

Siltation Prediction:

• Locally we have presentation inputs stating the project will change in ten years due to siltation buildup. Locally we have also heard presentations we could expect this project to work as programmed for some twenty years.

<u>Local people outside the Project Team concerns</u>:

- Spend some \$10 to \$11 million (with ancillary costs) to still shut down businesses and then repeat the major flooding issues in a short period of time.
- What is the fall back plan if the project's beneficial impacts fail to materialize?

Implemented Project Management Plan:

- The "Who, What and How Funded" Project Management Plan control issue is off the table (public view).
- I.E.: South Slough Project usually requests \$1 Million annually for maintenance and updating.
- Assurances of project over estimate funding cost resources, other than Tillamook County General Fund.

SLC LPA Recommendations:

❖ Alternative SLC_LPA Plan: (Water Quality, Habitat, and Farmland Protection with Pre-mitigation Flood Project Purpose and Need)

- ➤ Alternative Changes to Proposed Design
 - o Clean out above referenced sloughs and Trask River confluence discharge for improved fresh water and tidal prism water flows IAW Clean Water Act.
 - Change design to protect and maintain Wilson Farm Hi-value farmland (Right to Protect Farmland).
 - o Incorporate Shilo Levee upgrade (former USACE Training Structure transferred to Tillamook County) into Proposed Project to protect implemented Restoration Project North area from break out flooding (Pre-mitigation Project concern).

Summary:

Farmland Protection Act: The Wilson Farmland is a key motivator for public acceptance of the SLC_LPA project as originally outlined in the Tillamook County Wetlands Management Plan for the Wilson, Farris, Fuhrman property transfer to Tillamook County for restoration work and farmland protection (supports local esteem of Tillamook County Cheese Association).

The Shilo Levee pending failure upgrade is of key interest to the Shilo Restaurant and Inn, TBHEID taxing District, and other major structures and properties in the immediate area (Tillamook County Federal Priority 2).

Tillamook County Soil and Water District is actively interested in this project contributing to local Clean Water Act and Essential Fish Habitat improvements, related also to recent NOAA, EPA, and

DEQ Public Meeting requesting project improvements in the Tillamook Basin. Full project funding is occluded at this time.

I find interest in that NorthWest Hydrologics Model is in the state of Hydrologic Model upgrade with current real survey point data, with potential to impact (plus or minus) EIS scoping.

Some local leaders have a concern regarding the "What If? this project continues flooding conditions as is, or even makes flooding conditions worse, with a perceived loss of major investment revenues.

I am in full support of the TCSWCD and TBHEID EIS scoping input letters, and share the interests of some local private sector principals.

Sincerely,

A. D. "Gus" Meyer,

Email: gusmeyer9@gmail.com

Private Sector Advocate, and

TCSWCD Associate Director



TILLAMOOK BAY HABITAT & ESTUARY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Post Office Box 700 • Tillamook, Oregon 97141 503-815-8164 • TBHEID@tillamookoffice.com

FEMA/Mark Eberlein 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

June 11, 2014

Re: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor (SFC) Project Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Eberlein,

Thank you for the May 28 Tillamook SFC Project Public Scoping Meeting and the opportunity for additional local comments through June 13. Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District (TBHEID), at the core of flood damage reduction in central Tillamook County for a couple decades, appreciates the opportunity to influence the SFC Project.

As <u>proposed</u>, the FEMA and TBHEID SFC Project is for flood damage reduction in the historic flood zone between the City of Tillamook and Bay City. The ideal project cost effectively protects the natural habitat, public safety, and the highly valued cultural and economic center of Tillamook.

In finalizing the SFC Project adopted by the Tillamook Oregon Solutions Program and other purposed alternatives, a TBHEID priority for the <u>project and all alternatives</u> is maximum on-the-ground AND digital data input with more hydrodynamic modeling of newest information. Peer review of all hydromodeling to-date for final project approval is paramount. No negative impacts on property in and surrounding the project area i.e., water levels, water tables, sediment loads, wildlife, public uses, infrastructure, economics, etc. is approved by TBHEID.

A prime natural habitat, agriculture, cultural, AND economically viable area, the best available <u>resources</u> are critical—minds, experience, nature, history, science, on-the-ground "truthing," relevant technology, data, education, public safety measures, studies, specialists, engineers, and money—to construct the ideal project.

Additional comments include: 1) maximize restoration of historic natural river and slough drainages; 2) minimize levee changes (with height and longitudinal changes in place of removal and rebuilding of new levees); 3) secure funding now for post-project corrections and future maintenance; 4) maximize public property uses in collaboration with private property owners; 5) minimize private property buy outs; 6) design flood flow project that maximizes natural flood capacity areas (Tillamook Bay and undeveloped areas) while protecting highly developed areas (lower areas around Hoquarton Slough and City of Tillamook); 7) no replacement of historic flooding with "flash flooding" on state Highway 101 N City of Tillamook; and 8) show \$10M/520 acre real cost benefits.

Sincerely,

TBHEID Members & Associates

TILLAMOOK BAY HABITAT & ESTUARY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD

Chad Allen 801-1097 ° Bub Boquist 842-2019 ° Jon Cummings 815-8301 ° Kathleen Didier 815-2927 Judy Mammano 355-2520 ° Denny Pastega 801-8000 ° Doug Rosenberg 842-4191 ° Staff: Til**REGEIVED**

Page E-45

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need there is one more options purchase the remaining a wouses on boodspeed Road below the bridge. Take out dikes on tall Slough. Remove spillway and some dikelon Lower end, this will let the works flow tust as good if not bet than the Southern Flow Project. The cost would be alof less and the out come would be better the dike around the non agrigulturae land would not have to be built.

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) Will boods peed Rd and the bridge over Healt Slough handle the heavest ruck traffic? we depend on the road and brieds to get to town. If the bridge or road give way we will not

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat) what will hopen to all the wildlife? We have deer and other wildlife and birds. We also have nesting eagles in the Spruce Forest. This forest will die with the project.

Other (use back or attach pages)

SI was told that houses couldn't be bought and I know of 3 houses and 2 barns that were bought. There are probably more that I don't know about.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



How with this project affect property values. After everything dies within 5-30 years?

would the County or who be trable for property damage if the project doesn't work?

when major floods occur the water flow is very show. After the project is done the water move much more rapidly which then can cause more damage to property a life Also how high would the tidal surge or storm suge come up into the wetlands during major flood events?

Fold

during the floods. If project goesthru we will be the only family down here.

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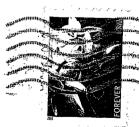
Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Fold

John Filbeck 460 Goodspeed Rd N Fillamook, Or 97141

PORTLAND OR 970 10 JUN 2014 FMS L



Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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Tape

Page E-47

Subject: FW: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Attachments: TILLAMOOK BASIN.rtf

----Original Message-----

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS [mailto:fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 7:50 AM To: 'kristin.hull@ch2m.com'; Stenberg, Kate

Cc: Eberlein, Mark; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Stewart, Jessica M

Subject: FW: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

More

----Original Message-----

From: Loretta & Eric Peterson [mailto:lepete@pacifier.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2014 3:05 PM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Attached find our comments about the above entitled proposal

Eric & Loretta Peterson Eric & Roy Peterson Farm 105 Bayocean Rd NW Tillamook, OR 97141

FEMA c/o Mark Eberlein 130 - 228th St. SW Bothell, WA 98021

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement

CONCERNS FOR TILLAMOOK BASIN AND WHY WE OPPOSE THE CURRENT PROPOSAL

Five rivers and many sloughs empty into Tillamook Bay. Tillamook, Trask, Wilson, Kilchis and Miami rivers. The mouths of these rivers become waterways in tidal influx where blockage in outflow is present. Where rivers enter tidal areas they should be designated 'WATERWAYS', at this point. For example, in Germany and the Netherlands, they are proactive to protect farmland and it is mandatory to maintain their diking system and ditches and to keep all waterways open. Using progressive farming and water management techniques they have proven that they excel at protecting their lands. We could do that here on the lower Tillamook River. This would greatly help salmon and fish in general by lowering water temperatures and giving fish a passage up river for a longer period than a higher tide. Less predation with a deeper channel from seals, cormorants plus other bird and animal predators. Land taken out of farmland has a negative impact on migratory birds, duck and geese which feed on lush dairy pasture on their way to Mexico in Fall and in the Spring on their way to Alaska. Elk and deer also love these lush dairy pastures. Wide open spaces bring out the wildlife.

The siltation of Tillamook Basin has been accelerating at an alarming rate. If a project was established to keep lower Tillamook Basin open this would allow for Tillamook Bay to have less siltation. In a very short time we won't have a bay as we have known in the past. It will be more of a silted in area with some main channels. When the Army Corp of Engineers put in the jetties, the bays outflow changed how it emptied into the Pacific Ocean, slowing down the tidal changes. With logging and silt depositing more abundantly, we do not get the 'scouring' effect needed to keep the waterways flowing correctly. Why has Tillamook County allowed this to happen knowing it was inevitable? Dredging was halted in the '70's and logging the Tillamook Forest really started having a negative impact on the siltation deposits in Tillamook Bay. 40 years of siltation and no dredging has impacted local businesses, families and livelihoods negatively also. In less than a hundred years Tillamook Bay will have thousands of acres of habitat you are trying to create and probably will function much better. The area you have tried to manage won't be functioning without a lot of maintenance to keep this waterway open. We know for the past 20 + years we have had numerous studies and models done on what is best for Tillamook Bay. Let's not lose focus on the people and their lives; they have

worked so hard to make a living here. This is our community we live here and raised our families here.

A privately funded spillway, installed years ago, made a dramatic change during the last flood episode. The water only stayed for 12 hours... 1 tide.. amazing. Great reduction from 2 days or longer.

Our farm is located directly across from the purposed project. In 34 years I have observed a 4-5 foot higher elevation from siltation at the mouth of Tillamook River which borders our farmland. Low tides reveal narrower channels, less water scouring. The FEMA proposal to eliminate the dykes on numerous properties would have catastrophic affects. In a short time sand and rock that flow down the Tillamook River will possibly block outflow from this proposed project and our farm. A reduced time for water to move out of our ditches thru the tide gates into the Tillamook River.

FEMA FUNDS could be used for 'Emergency' permits as they are needed to maintain the outflow to the Tillamook River. This fund should be a reserve to fix all affected landowners and as a permanent maintenance fund with continual money to be in a yearly budget. Funds coming into account managed by somebody who will get things done within a reasonable time. 1 month or less!

With this impact I want FEMA to continually elevate my dykes to protect my farmland from rising elevations of Tillamook River and to install pumps on my farm to keep water tables down.

Water knows where it wants to go; we need to help it get to its destination. My concerns are:

Will the maintenance get done in this new wetland habitat?

Who maintains and will they get permits to do work?

Wouldn't it be more cost effective to just let it stay in farm ground and let the farmers maintain it?

If you have any desire to contact me, please call me at 503-809-9866 or email me at lepete@pacifier.com

Sincerely,

Eric L Peterson Loretta Y Peterson Eric & Roy Peterson Farm 105 Bayocean Rd NW Tillamook, OR 97141

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

- → Project's purpose and need
- → Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
- → Resources that could be impacted
- → Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

Comments submitted by **June 13, 2014** will become part of a scoping report, which will help the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and other partners determine what to study in the environmental impact statement.

I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project - The hydraulic modeling needs to be peer reviewed to determine that the expected results for the flood reduction are real and that the expected cost benefit ratio is warranted.

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need -

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) - The value of the soil types and current agriculture use should be evaluated on its economic impacts on the community.

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

 the value of the fresh water marsh needs to be looked at for its value on birds of prey and fur bearing animals.

Other (use back or attach pages) - We have the property at what will be the end of Goodspeed Road and

will still be farming it, so want assurance that water table agriculture

drainage will not be impacted.

What will be the risk to our house?

We will wanting to know who will be buying us out if this project ruins our

farmland and property.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



	The negative risk to us and our neighbor John Fillbeck from the project is greater than anyone else these possible negative impacts must be part of the EIS. Sincerely, Chad Allen	а
_	_	_
_		-
	Please mail comments by June 13, 2014	_
_	Place stamp here	
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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project Environmental Impact Statement**

Scoping comment form

Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

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- > Possible alternatives to addressing the purpose and need
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- Ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of alternatives

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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

Some cleaning of ditchs and reconnection of the Sloughs would be helpful.

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

SAME AS About

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources) There is over 100 Acres of good From Land That would be affected. 3 cuttings each year produce at Least 2000 Tons of grass. Farm land in needed for economic deductopment of Tillamook Cheese To survive Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, waterquality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Well groomed Form LAND OREAlly helps grest and ducks because they like young grass to feel on. Cleaning of ditches would help fish.
Other (use back or attach pages)

howering Levees and moving Tidegates decould CAUSE more flooding in TillAmook with high Tides and STRONG winds. Without the CURRENT Tide gates I believe more sediment will build up in one Bay

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



Thank you for Reading This Page E-53

Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project**

Environmental Impact Statement



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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

e la easements with landowners

asing properties. Show them benefits of flood

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic

resources)

healthy wetlands, restore fish lightest, protect

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

(see alrow,)

Other (use back or attach pages)

into administration uto construction + less money

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement



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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for th Need Naveu	e project project tha	t enhances	private	property
the control of the co	and the second of the second o	s the purpose and need plan & Uw proyed	the company of the co	
		project	ing sa	en njiggere e v

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources)

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

H (levels: lowered levels may & need to be raised in future as loay fills)

With more redirect and ocean fisher.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).

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#2 pumps: nee	ded short Hold	my term?
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Don Autdermauer 503-812-1042

Please mail comments by June 13, 2014

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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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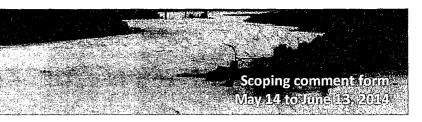
FEMA, Mark Eberlein 130 - 228th St SW Bothell, WA 98021

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Tillamook Southern Flow **Corridor Project**

Environmental Impact Statement



Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

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Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



the project well not stop flooding but will kelp the water to clear the are sooner. thankyour Dale Buck 2590 Chinook 2005 Cloverdale Or 97112 dalebuck c contury link not a returned trang tarmer

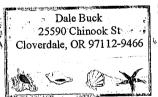
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Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

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FEMA REGION X

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS <fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 7:46 AM **To:** Stenberg, Kate; 'kristin.hull@ch2m.com'

Cc: Eberlein, Mark; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Stewart, Jessica M

Subject: FW: EIS Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Attachments: pub cmt_individual_6-10-14.pdf

Here are two additional public comments that came in last week.

From: Robert Garrigues [mailto:bg-capemeares@charter.net]

Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 4:06 PM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: EIS Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 - 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

TILLAMOOK SOUTHERN FLOW CORRIDOR PROJECT

Environmental Impact Statement

I am in agreement that there is a need to develop a plan that addresses the 2007 adopted goal for Tillamook Bay. For over 100 years competing interests at the federal, state, and local levels have created a piecemeal, poorly designed, poorly implemented, constipated pattern of decisions that have had a consistently negative long-term impact on this region's social, economic, and environmental fabric.

The current alternatives presented do not represent a serious short term solution, and they leave long term solutions to future generations. To dedicate 500 + acres to the creation of salt marsh to improve estuary juvenile fish habitat and not include the dredging of river channels in Tillamook Bay, creates a marsh that will be inefficient and expose fish to predators in narrow, shallow channels while exiting and entering the estuary. Sediment restricts heavier, new salt water from entering the river estuaries. The rivers of Tillamook Bay are short, only 30-40 miles long. Spring and summer flows are low. Without the flushing action of tides, oxygen dead zones are currently apparent in several channels and sloughs, including areas west of Highway 101.

There are no plans to bring fresh water to Hoquarton or Dougherty Sloughs. There are no plans to dredge Hoquarton or Dougherty Sloughs. An alternate plan involving Hall Slough is projected to carry 1000 cfs during a flood event. Connecting Hall Slough to a 500 acre marsh area is a plan I support. I do not support the current downstream return of Hall Slough to the Wilson River.

Reports from the 1970s approximate 1 million cubic yards of sediment per year brought to Tillamook Bay from its five rivers. A century of logging, a series of forest fires that destroyed

vegetation on 200,000 acres in Tillamook County, landslides, and floods, all continue to contribute to sedimentation in Tillamook Bay. This is not nature at work. This is, to a much greater extent, a man-made mess. Incoming tides also bring sand sediment into the bay. Because summer flows out of the rivers are so low, this sediment settles inside the bay rather than being carried back out of the bay during ebb tides.

Without a commitment to periodic dredging, these problems will continue to diminish the capacity of the bay to hold water during flood events and block the efficient exchange of new salt water into the river/slough estuary habitat, reducing the efficiency of achieving the goal.

The Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project lists impounding water [dams] towards the bottom of the list of long term solutions. If incorporating environmental, social, and economic values is part of our goal, impounding water needs to move up on the list. Holding back water during the rainy season reduces flooding. This water that can be used during summer low-water flows in support of fish. This water can provide for irrigation. This water would create recreational opportunities within an hour's drive of major metropolitan areas. This water would create a reservoir accessible for fire control and power generation. It is imperative in a world increasingly short of clean, fresh water that we make plans and take steps to use what we are given in a wise manner. We need a commitment to explore possible sites for impounding water.

As a landowner within the project's boundaries, I do not support the current proposals as written. I look forward to supporting an inclusive and efficient means of reaching the 2007 goal.

Respectfully,

Robert D. Garrigues P.O. Box 357 Tillamook, OR 97141

Appendix F

Agency Comments

Date Submitted	Submitted By	Organization	Page
5/22/2014	Fenk, R.	Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District	F-1
5/23/2014	DeBlasi, M.	Oregon Department of State Lands	F-3
5/28/2014	Anonymous		F-4
5/27/2014	Monroe, R.	Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District	F-5
5/28/2014	Monroe, R.	Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District	F-8
6/4/2014	Hampton, M.	US Forest Service	F-11
6/13/2014	Jenck, J.	Stillwell Drainage District	F-12
6/13/2014	Mizee, K.	Stillwell Drainage District	F-14
6/13/2014	Peterson, E.	US Environmental Protection Agency	F-17



Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District

4000 Blimp Blvd. Suite 200 - Tillamook, Oregon 97141 Phone (503) 842-2240 / Fax (503) 842-2760 Website - http://www.tillamookcountyswed.org E-Mail: ray.monroe@or.nacdnet.net

May 22, 2014

FEMA Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130-228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

RE: Southern Flow Corridor EIS

Dear Mark,

On behalf of the Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors I am presenting our concerns for the Scoping Meeting Plan for the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Environmental Impact Statement.

The Board feels that any project implemented to reduce flooding should include sediment removal from the sloughs running through and adjacent to the project area to produce an adequate amount of flow. This will improve hydrologic connectivity, oxygen levels and provide better habitat for salmonid migration.

Several quotes from the "Fluvial Geomorphic Analysis of the Tillamook Bay Basin Rivers" prepared by Monte L. Pearson, Ph.D. support our concern.

1. "The reestablishment of hydrological conductivity between upper alluvial plain to the Tillamook Bay is needed. This could be completed by the reconnection of the sloughs and the mainstem channel systems. This would allow some fluvial pyramid development to proceed, as well as increase the degree of channel freedom in the deltaic area. However, the total removal of levees or other structural elements retarding channel freedom is not an acceptable solution. Allowing some set back of these structures would allow natural channel processes to develop. The increase in channel cross-sectional area would reduce high flow or flood events. There must be a combination of restoring natural channel processes, while at the same time controlling the degree of freedom of the channels with some engineering elements. The mix and location becomes a political situation; however, without some combination, there will be no reduction of flood events in the Tillamook Bay Basin."

- 2. "The lower river channels were choked with sediment; as a result of reduced channel capacity, flooding was often aggravated during storms."
- 3. "Today, it appears that the bay and channel network are being loaded with sediment. This reduces boat access from the bay to the river systems that drain into the bay. There is an apparent perception that at the river-bay interface, channel sedimentation rates have or are increasing; sediments are now plugging channels, reducing in-flow capacity, and increasing flood levels and duration."

The Board at this time does not support the Southern Flow Corridor project being presented and wishes you take into consideration the following key points and questions during your Scoping Process.

- Identify the soil types and their economic values being affected
- Have the benefits of the Wilson/Trask and Tone Road Spillway Projects that addressed the need to reduce the height and duration of nuisance flooding been modeled into the SFC project?
- There should be an Operations and Maintenance Plan in place identifying the overall maintenance costs both short and long term.
- Identify the monetary source for Operations and Maintenance and how it will be obtained and sustained over the expected life of the project.
- Any potential cost overrun of the project should have identified and secured funding.
- The new dikes designed to pass overtopping flood waters will be more prone to erosion
- Will the project have a negative effect on the lower Trask River and adjacent Agricultural drainages? (Wiley Factor)
- Will the storage behind the Beeler/Jones levee be adequate?
- Will there be increased water delivery from the lower Wilson to the South and what effect will it have on drainage of the Trask and Tillamook?

The Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors believes the present flood control system in place today is working acceptably well and would like to thank you for addressing our concerns.

Sincerely Yours,

Puky Hank

Rudy Fenk

Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Chair

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS <fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 10:33 AM

To: Stenberg, Kate

Cc: Eberlein, Mark; Stewart, Jessica M; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry

Subject: FW: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor

And another comment.

From: DEBLASI Michael [mailto:michael.deblasi@state.or.us]

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2014 9:43 AM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor

Dear sir or madam,

This comment refers to Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor project and state ownership of tidally influenced and navigable waterways.

The State of Oregon is the primary owner of tidelands in Tillamook Bay. Although some have been sold to private entities, that is not the case in the project area. Any work on the removal, upgrade or construction of tidegates, fill/levees, etc that occurs below the mean high tide elevation would require an access authorization from the Department of State Lands-Land Management Division. Furthermore, as the State is the owner of the bed and banks of the tidal channels, any placement of structures in, under or over these channels would require an authorization. Any newly constructed channels would not need an authorization. Any restoration work that is to be permanent within these channels would require a Conservation Easement.

Michael De Blasi

North Coast (Clatsop, Tillamook & Lincoln Counties) Oregon Department of State Lands 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100 Salem, Ore 97301-1279 503-986-5309 (ph) 503-378-4844 (fax) www.oregonstatelands.us

Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Please provide your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about the:

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I have specific comments about the following: Attach more pages if necessary.

Purpose and need for the project

FEMA NOAM FOR FUS

left at Agency meeting 5/23/14

FOR USES - NO RESOURCE ECSPONSIBILITY - AUGULARY AND SECONDARY INTEREST IN
EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING (DESTORATION+ HAZADOS) AND SEDIMENFATION/ SEDIMENT
TRANSPORT,

Alternatives presented or other ways to address the purpose and need

Community resources in the project area (such as agriculture, economic development, cultural/historic resources)

OF CXISTING USGS SCIENCE TENSECTS.

Natural resources in the project area (such as wetlands, water quality, fish/wildlife habitat)

Other (use back or attach pages)

NOT A LOT OF EVALUATION OF SECRET BUDGET & FLUX - WHICH COULD COMPROMISE EEROBATION.

Submit comments by June 13, 2014 by mail (see back) or fax (425-487-4613 Attention: FEMA SFC EIS). Comments may also be submitted online at www.SouthernFlowEIS.org or by email (fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov).



2014-05-27 MonroeR_Tillamook SWCD

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS
To: Stenberg, Kate

Cc: "kristin.hull@ch2m.com"; Kerschke, William; Eberlein, Mark; Stewart, Jessica M; Gall, Barry

Subject: FW: Tillamook Soil and Water EIS letter of concern

Date: Friday, May 30, 2014 7:22:12 AM

Attachments: EIS letter 1.doc

Kate – Here's another public comment.

From: Ray Monroe [mailto:doryfreshfish@embarqmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 10:37 PM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: Tillamook Soil and Water EIS letter of concern

Dear Mark, I am submitting this from another email to make sure it gets to you. Not quite sure of the email I used this morning. Thank You, Ray



Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District

4000 Blimp Blvd. Suite 200 - Tillamook, Oregon 97141 Phone (503) 842-2240 / Fax (503) 842-2760 Website - http://www.tillamookcountyswcd.org E-Mail: ray.monroe@or.nacdnet.net

May 22, 2014

FEMA Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130-228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

RE: Southern Flow Corridor EIS

Dear Mark,

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The Board feels that any project implemented to reduce flooding should include sediment removal from the sloughs running through and adjacent to the project area to produce an adequate amount of flow. This will improve hydrologic connectivity, oxygen levels and provide better habitat for salmonid migration.

Several quotes from the "Fluvial Geomorphic Analysis of the Tillamook Bay Basin Rivers" prepared by Monte L. Pearson, Ph.D. support our concern.

1. - "The reestablishment of hydrological conductivity between upper alluvial plain to the Tillamook Bay is needed. This could be completed by the reconnection of the sloughs and the mainstem channel systems. This would allow some fluvial pyramid development to proceed, as well as increase the degree of channel freedom in the deltaic area. However, the total removal of levees or other structural elements retarding channel freedom is not an acceptable solution. Allowing some set back of these structures would allow natural channel processes to develop. The increase in channel cross-sectional area would reduce high flow or flood events. There must be a combination of restoring natural channel processes, while at the same time controlling the degree of freedom of the channels with some engineering elements. The mix and location becomes a political situation; however, without some combination, there will be no reduction of flood events in the Tillamook Bay Basin."

- 2. "The lower river channels were choked with sediment; as a result of reduced channel capacity, flooding was often aggravated during storms."
- 3. "Today, it appears that the bay and channel network are being loaded with sediment. This reduces boat access from the bay to the river systems that drain into the bay. There is an apparent perception that at the river-bay interface, channel sedimentation rates have or are increasing; sediments are now plugging channels, reducing in-flow capacity, and increasing flood levels and duration."

The Board at this time does not support the Southern Flow Corridor project being presented and wishes you take into consideration the following key points and questions during your Scoping Process.

- Identify the soil types and their economic values being affected
- Have the benefits of the Wilson/Trask and Tone Road Spillway Projects that addressed the need to reduce the height and duration of nuisance flooding been modeled into the SFC project?
- There should be an Operations and Maintenance Plan in place identifying the overall maintenance costs both short and long term.
- Identify the monetary source for Operations and Maintenance and how it will be obtained and sustained over the expected life of the project.
- Any potential cost overrun of the project should have identified and secured funding.
- The new dikes designed to pass overtopping flood waters will be more prone to erosion
- Will the project have a negative effect on the lower Trask River and adjacent Agricultural drainages? (Wiley Factor) -
- Will the storage behind the Beeler/Jones levee be adequate?
- Will there be increased water delivery from the lower Wilson to the South and what effect will it have on drainage of the Trask and Tillamook?

The Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors believes the present flood control system in place today is working acceptably well and would like to thank you for addressing our concerns.

Sincerely Yours,

Rudy Fenk

Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Chair

2014-05-28 MonroeR_Tillamook SWCD

From: Kerschke, William
To: Stenberg, Kate

Cc: <u>Eberlein, Mark; Kilner, Science</u>

Subject: SFC: Scoping Comment Letter: District FEMA letter

Date: Thursday, May 29, 2014 6:29:26 AM

Attachments: Final EIS Letter to FEMA.pdf

We will be getting a hard copy also.

From: Ray Monroe [mailto:doryfreshfish@embargmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 7:05 AM

To: Aaron Palter

Subject: Fw: District FEMA letter

---- Original Message -----

From: Ray Monroe

To: Tilda; Michele Bradley

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 6:53 AM

Subject: District FEMA letter



Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District

4000 Blimp Blvd. Suite 200 - Tillamook, Oregon 97141 Phone (503) 842-2240 / Fax (503) 842-2760 Website - http://www.tillamookcountyswed.org E-Mail: ray.monroe@or.nacdnet.net

May 22, 2014

FEMA Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130-228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021

RE: Southern Flow Corridor EIS

Dear Mark.

On behalf of the Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors I am presenting our concerns for the Scoping Meeting Plan for the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Environmental Impact Statement.

The Board feels that any project implemented to reduce flooding should include sediment removal from the sloughs running through and adjacent to the project area to produce an adequate amount of flow. This will improve hydrologic connectivity, oxygen levels and provide better habitat for salmonid migration.

Several quotes from the "Fluvial Geomorphic Analysis of the Tillamook Bay Basin Rivers" prepared by Monte L. Pearson, Ph.D. support our concern.

1. "The reestablishment of hydrological conductivity between upper alluvial plain to the Tillamook Bay is needed. This could be completed by the reconnection of the sloughs and the mainstem channel systems. This would allow some fluvial pyramid development to proceed, as well as increase the degree of channel freedom in the deltaic area. However, the total removal of levees or other structural elements retarding channel freedom is not an acceptable solution. Allowing some set back of these structures would allow natural channel processes to develop. The increase in channel cross-sectional area would reduce high flow or flood events. There must be a combination of restoring natural channel processes, while at the same time controlling the degree of freedom of the channels with some engineering elements. The mix and location becomes a political situation; however, without some combination, there will be no reduction of flood events in the Tillamook Bay Basin."

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Sincerely Yours,

Budy Hank

Rudy Fenk

Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District Chair

2014-06-04 HamptonM_USFS

From: FEMA-SFC-EIS <fema-sfc-eis@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 3:45 PM **To:** 'kristin.hull@ch2m.com'; Stenberg, Kate

Cc: Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Eberlein, Mark; Stewart, Jessica M

Subject: FW: Southern Flow Corridor Project-FEMA scoping Itr

FYI

From: Hampton, Michael -FS [mailto:mhampton@fs.fed.us]

Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 2:53 PM **To:** FEMA-SFC-EIS; meberlein@fema.dhs.gov

Cc: Andrew, Jackie C -FS; Rine, Richard N -FS; Ingersoll, Jerry -FS; Davis, Frank -FS; Woltering, Scott C -FS; Capurso,

James -FS; Uebel, Jeff -FS; Buckingham, George -FS; Hampton, Michael -FS

Subject: Southern Flow Corridor Project-FEMA scoping Itr

Mark E., last month you sent a letter dated 5/12/14 to Pacific Northwest Regional Forester, Kent Connaughton, inviting the Forest Service (FS) to participate in a public and other agency scoping mtg in Portland on May 28th. Unfortunately, due to agency turnover or other absences, to my knowledge no one in our agency responded. This letter was just handed to me, a week after your scoping mtg. and apparently no one from the Forest Service attended the mtg to ascertain any potential Forest Service interest in the project. After a brief conversation with you, Mark Eberlein, regional environmental officer, FEMA; I now know almost enough to provide a response. By this email I will notify potentially interested parties in the FS, both here in the regional office (regional T &E aquatics program manager), and on the Siuslaw National Forest, where listed coho salmon habitat potentially may be effected by the project.

I will attempt to determine if the FS intends to continue participation on this project, and either notify you directly or coordinate a response from other, more appropriate FS personnel. If you could provide me an electronic copy of your ltr to Mr. Connaughton that would be most helpful.

To FS folks, the project scoping ltr says it's purpose is to improve public safety by reducing flood damage risk, and may effect listed Coho salmon, in or near Tillamook bay. The requested date for response to scoping is June 13, 2014. Here is the website for the project scoping effort, which intends to have a draft EIS in early 2015: www.SouthernFlowEIS.org. Siuslaw folks, please let me know by 6/13, if you intend to participate formally as a cooperating agency, or informally in this project.

Michael L. Hampton Regional Environmental Coordinator Regional Ecosystem Office, FS representative Pacific Northwest Region, Portland OR. 503-808-2902

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Stillwell Drainage District

Tillamook, OR

To whom it may concern:

The Stillwell Drainage District is composed of a group of landowners on the ground between the lower Trask and Tillamook Rivers. This property is directly south of the Southern Flow Corridor, across the Trask River. The District is charged with maintaining an Army Corp of Engineers Certified Levee that surrounds the property held by the landowners, as well as a series of tide gates and lift pumps. The property is high value farmland, commercial properties, and Oregon State Highway 131 passes through as well. As a District we support the "No Action Alternative", however, we appreciate the opportunity to comment through the scoping process regarding the other alternatives and specifically the "Landowner Preferred Alternative".

Two of the key areas identified in the presentation of the alternatives were reducing flood damage and life safety. We can see potential impacts in both these areas within our district. It is our concern that while reducing flood damage and/or increasing life safety via any of the alternative projects there is potential to increase flood damage and decrease life safety within our district. With a large number of cattle, feed being stored and a significant investment in buildings and infrastructure flood damage is a concern, of course. Also, one of the commercial properties is a local radio station KTIL/KMBD which is plays a vital role in dispensing information during an emergency. Often overlooked is the fact that during a flood event the ability to pass across the District ground via Hwy 131 is maintained. This passage allows for the communities of Oceanside, Netarts and Cape Mears to access medical attention and supplies. As a result we would request that specific attention be given towards flood prevention in our district.

Our systems, fully funded through district dues, have been effective to this point in preventing flooding as long as the grade of the levee is maintained. However, these proposed projects have the ability to alter that. It is our belief that this will increase flow rate and volume along our North (Trask River) levee and increase the overall water level in the basin around the District as a whole. Should any of the flow corridor projects come to pass we believe that the following measures will need to be taken:

- *Total capping of the levee to add additional height to offset the increased water now being released near the district versus into the bay closer to the mouth
- *The lift pumps that currently remove the water from within the district levee will need to be increased in size in order to offset the increased water in the basin which will slow the opening of the tide gates which currently allow a large percentage of the water to escape.
- *The areas on the river side of the tide gates should be cleaned to increase flow rates when the gates reach a point when they are able to function.

*While portions of the levee are shelled with rip-rap, there are areas that are not. One such area is on the North levee across from where the proposed projects would take place. Unknown flow patterns and high rates of flow make this critical as well.

All work will need to be performed with oversight and in accordance with the standards of the US Army Corps of Engineers. Also, any impact to property owners in the course of these changes should be fully compensated.

Once again we appreciate the ability to participate in the scoping process and voice our concerns. We believe the potential to impact the property within the district is substantial with any of the alternatives outside of "No Action".

Regards,
Joe Jenck
District Chairman

2014-06-13 MizeeK SitllwaterDrainageDist

From: <u>FEMA-SFC-EIS</u>

To: "kristin.hull@ch2m.com"; Stenberg, Kate

Cc: <u>Eberlein, Mark; Kerschke, William; Gall, Barry; Stewart, Jessica M</u>
Subject: FW: scoping comments Tillamook Southern Flow Cooridor

Date: Monday, June 16, 2014 7:47:39 AM

Attachments: scoping document.doc

And another.

From: Kurt Mizee [mailto:robodairy@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 10:38 AM

To: FEMA-SFC-EIS

Subject: scoping comments Tillamook Southern Flow Cooridor

Please see the attached document with comments from the Stillwell Drainage District. Please let me know if you have any difficulty opening the document or if we can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely, Kurt Mizee

--

Kurt Mizee Fourth Generation



www.facebook.com/TillaBayFarms

200 Fenk Rd W Tillamook, OR 97141

503-812-0932

Stillwell Drainage District

Tillamook, OR

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Regards,
Joe Jenck
District Chairman



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101-3140

> OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

June 13, 2014

Federal Emergency Management Agency c/o Mark Eberlein, Regional Environmental Officer 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, Washington 98021

Re: EPA scoping comments for the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement. EPA Project number 14-0023-FEM.

Dear Mr. Eberlein:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the May 6, 2014 Federal Register Notice for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Southern Flow Corridor Flood Reduction and Habitat Restoration Project, Tillamook County, Oregon.

The EPA's role

Our review of the NOI was conducted in accordance with our responsibilities under National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. Section 309 specifically directs the EPA to review and comment in writing on the environmental impacts associated with all major federal actions. Under our Section 309 authority, our review of the draft EIS prepared for the proposed project will consider the expected environmental impacts, and the adequacy of the EIS in meeting procedural and public disclosure requirements of NEPA.

Our interest in this project is also informed by the EPA's recognition of Tillamook as an estuary of national significance, and approval of the Tillamook Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) as the long-term, comprehensive, basin-wide vision for performance-based management under the EPA's National Estuary Program. The EPA has ongoing involvement in the area through our cooperative agreement with the Tillamook Estuaries Partnership.

Project summary

According to the May 28, 2014 public scoping meeting's presentation, the need for this action is driven by the following:

- The area has a history of severe repetitive flooding with widespread damage to property, road closures, and other economic losses.
- There is a desire to support recovery of threatened species and restore wetland, tidal marsh, and aquatic habitats that support fish and wildlife, which were lost through diking, draining and other land uses.

 RECEIVED

¹ Summary information from http://www.southernfloweis.org/

JUN 17 2014

FEMA REGION X



The purpose of the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project is to:

- Reduce flood damage to property and economic losses
- Reduce life safety risk from floods
- Contribute to the recovery of Oregon Coast coho
- Restore historical habitat for other native fish and wildlife

To meet the purpose and need of the project, project partners propose to:

- remove 7 miles and modify 3 miles of levees to allow flood waters to flow across the project area
- build 1 mile of new levees to protect lower delta agricultural lands
- restore 526 acres of tidal wetlands
- require a flowage easement over 85 acres to allow high flows to pass to Tillamook Bay
- reduce flood elevations

Project-specific scoping comments

The EPA supports restoring natural processes

Wherever possible, and particularly where there may be a dual benefit – such as flood risk reduction – the EPA supports actions that restore natural processes. We support this project's efforts to restore natural processes because we believe, consistent with the January 2014 Southern Flow Corridor Effectiveness Monitoring Plan, that re-establishing natural hydrologic processes will in turn allow re-establishment of ecosystem structures, processes, and functions, such as support for juvenile salmonids, sediment detention, production of organic matter, and habitat suitable for native plant communities.² We also support the project's effort to restore natural processes because we believe that loss of floodplain function and stream complexity are themselves key contributors to repetitive flooding and flood related damage to property and roads.

We are especially supportive of potential water quality and climate change resilience benefits. For example, we agree with Tillamook County's February 2013 Application for Federal Assistance³ that dike breaching will allow greater natural exchange of water between the Trask River, which has high levels of Dissolved Oxygen (DO), and Hoquarten Slough. This has the potential to improve DO levels in the Slough. With regard to increasing resilience to impacts from climate change, we agree that removing levees that currently isolate the project area has the potential to facilitate natural marsh accretion and allow the site to keep pace with sea-level rise, fostering species' resilience and adaptability.

Alignment with restoration and conservation plans

We believe that emphasis on achieving both flood risk reduction and environmental benefits is consistent with federal agencies', including FEMA's, responsibilities to the 1999 Tillamook Bay Comprehensive Management Plan (CCMP), which the EPA has approved under the Federal Clean Water Act. The Tillamook Bay CCMP calls for the protection and restoration of 750 acres of wetlands. The Landowner Preferred Alternative would address the majority of this commitment. The project will also meet nine CCMP actions aimed at protecting and enhancing wetlands, instream features, removing salmon migration barriers, reconnecting sloughs and rivers, and improving sediment storage and routing.

² Available online at: http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/Documents/Misc/SFC_Effectiveness_Monitoring_Plan_Final_2014-01-07.pdf

³ Available online at: http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/Documents/Misc/NOAA_App_02-15-2013.pdf

Long term monitoring and adaptive management

We believe that long term monitoring and adaptive management will be an important component of ensuring that project goals are met. The January 2014 Southern Flow Corridor Effectiveness Monitoring Plan is a useful start to establishing this important project component. Please provide stakeholders and agencies an opportunity to help develop long term monitoring and adaptive management planning by including a detailed draft monitoring and adaptive management plan in the Draft EIS.

In addition to the project specific comments above, we are enclosing general NEPA scoping comments for your consideration as you develop the EIS.

We would be happy to engage further where needed. If you would like to discuss these comments, please contact me at (206) 553-6382 or by electronic mail at peterson.erik@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Erik Peterson

Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit

Enclosure

General Scoping Comments for the Tillamook Southern Flow Corridor Project EIS

Aquatic resources, wetlands and riparian areas

The proposed activities may require a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit from the Corps. The Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines for Specification of Disposal Sites for Dredged or Fill Material require that impacts to aquatic resources be avoided, minimized, and mitigated, in that sequence.⁴

In order to effectively coordinate the NEPA process and the Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting process, we recommend that the EIS include information that demonstrates compliance with the Guidelines.

For unavoidable impacts, compensatory mitigation should be consistent with the Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule.⁵ The EIS should include a discussion of all mitigation options, including on-site mitigation. For unavoidable losses to aquatic resources, compensatory mitigation should be implemented in advance of the impacts to avoid temporal habitat losses.

To the extent possible, the following information from a draft mitigation plan should be included in the EIS:

- A description of the resource type and amount that will be provided, the method of compensation, and the manner in which the resource functions of the compensatory mitigation project will address the needs of the ecoregion, physiographic province, or other geographic area of interest.⁶
- A description of the factors considered during the compensatory mitigation project site selection process.⁷
- A description of ecological performance standards that will be used to assess whether the project is achieving its objectives.⁸
- A description of parameters to be monitored in order to determine if the compensatory mitigation project is on track to meet performance standards and if adaptive management is needed.⁹
- Descriptions of the long-term management plan, adaptive management plan, and financial assurances. 10

Mitigation and monitoring

CEQ's January 14, 2011 guidance on the Appropriate Use of Mitigation and Monitoring addresses establishing, implementing, and monitoring mitigation commitments made during the NEPA process.¹¹

^{4 40} CFR 230

⁵ 33 CFR 325 and 332, and 40 CFR 230

⁶ 40 CFR 230.94 (c)(2)

⁷ 40 CFR 230.94 (c)(3)

^{8 40} CFR 230.95

^{9 40} CFR 230.94 (c)(10)

¹⁰ 40 CFR 230.94 (c)(11-13)

¹¹ CEQ, Memorandum for Heads of Federal Departments and Agencies, Subject: Appropriate Use of Mitigation and Monitoring and Clarifying the Appropriate Use of Mitigated Findings of No Significant Impact, January 14, 2011, http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/current_developments/docs/Mitigation_and_Monitoring_Guidance_14Jan2011.pdf

Key concepts include:

- Ensuring that mitigation commitments are implemented;
- Monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation commitments;
- Remedying failed mitigation; and
- Involving the public in mitigation planning.

Consider giving special attention to Section II's information on "Monitoring Mitigation Implementation" and "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Mitigation." Inclusion of implementation monitoring information in the EIS, such as identification of responsible parties, mitigation requirements, and enforcement clauses will help to ensure that those commitments are carried through permits or other agreements.

Air Quality

To address potential air quality impacts, consider whether project construction or project-related bulk goods shipping and handling would result in:

- emission of air pollutants that:
 - o cause any adverse impact on air-quality-related values in a federal Class I area or state wilderness area, or
 - o create annual emissions greater than the basic Prevention of Significant Deterioration emission thresholds;
- any new violation of any state or federal ambient air quality standards;
- interference with the maintenance or attainment of any state or federal ambient air quality standard in the analysis area;
- increases in the frequency or severity of any existing violations of any state or federal ambient air quality standard in the analysis area;
- exposure of nearby populations to increased levels of diesel particulate matter and other air toxics;
- delays in the timely attainment of any standard, interim emission reduction, or other air quality milestone promulgated by the EPA or state air quality agency; or,
- exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste/Solid Waste

Identify projected hazardous waste types and volumes, and expected storage, disposal, and management plans. Identify any hazardous materials sites within the project's study area and evaluate whether those sites would impact the project in any way.

Regional Climate Change Issues

There are several climate change impacts of particular concern in the Pacific Northwest that could be discussed in the EIS. Rising stream temperatures are expected reduce cold-water fisheries habitat. Changes in the timing and length of seasons would influence changes in the ranges, phenology, community composition, biotic interactions and behavior of plants and animals. Increased winter rainfall will be accompanied by a reduction in snow pack, earlier snowmelts, and increased runoff. Corrosive seawater from ocean acidification - caused primarily by oceans absorbing carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) - threatens shellfish, other marine calcifiers, and the broader marine environment, potentially

affecting the regional economy. ¹² Some of these effects of climate change, such as sea level rise, may impact the project itself. Consider, for example, sea level rise and potential effects on project performance.

We recommend that the EIS include an analysis of climate change vulnerabilities for the project. Vulnerabilities with a high likelihood of occurrence and negative implications for achieving project goals should be addressed through adaptation options.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts result when the effects of an action are added to other effects on a resource in a particular place and within a particular time. It is the combination of these effects, and any resulting environmental degradation, that should be the focus of cumulative impact analysis. While impacts can be differentiated by direct, indirect, and cumulative, the concept of cumulative impacts takes into account all relevant disturbances since cumulative impacts result from compounding the effects of all actions over time. The cumulative impacts of an action can be viewed as the total effects on a resource, ecosystem, or human community of that action and all other activities affecting the resource.

Characterize resources, ecosystems and communities in terms of their response to change and capacity to withstand stresses. Focus on resources that are "at risk" or have the potential to be significantly impacted by the proposed project.

Delineate and explain the reasoning behind geographic boundary decisions; using natural ecological boundaries to the extent possible. For example, for cumulative wetland impacts, a natural boundary such as a watershed or sub-watershed could be identified for the spatial scope, although an analysis at multiple geographic scales may also be appropriate. Include a determination and explanation for the analyses' temporal scope.

Trend data, where available, can be used to establish a baseline for the affected resources, project a reasonably foreseeable cumulative baseline for the affected resources, and to predict the environmental effects of the project when added to this baseline.

Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations requires each Federal agency to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations, low-income populations, and Native American tribes.¹³

To address potential environmental justice concerns, a useful resource is CEQ's 1997 "Environmental Justice Guidance under the National Environmental Policy Act." We would emphasize addressing the following:

• Demographic Analysis: Gather geographic and demographic data about the area affected by the proposed action to determine whether minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian

¹² Washington Department of Ecology, Ocean Acidification – From Knowledge to Action: Washington's Strategic Response, http://www.ecy.wa.gov/water/marine/oceanacidification.html

¹³ Executive Order 12898, 3 CFR 859 (1994)

¹⁴ CEQ, Environmental Justice Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act, December 10, 1997, http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ej/justice.pdf.

- tribes¹⁵ are present, and if so whether there may be disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on these populations.
- Establish baseline conditions: Consult relevant public health data and industry data to establish the potential for multiple or cumulative exposure to human health or environmental hazards in the affected population and historical patterns of exposure to environmental hazards, to the extent such information is reasonably available.¹⁶
- Characterize/describe the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the proposed action within this context: Recognize the interrelated cultural, social, occupational, historical, or economic factors that may amplify the natural and physical environmental effects of the proposed agency action. These factors should include the physical sensitivity of the community or population to particular impacts; the effect of any disruption on the community structure associated with the proposed action; and the nature and degree of impact on the physical and social structure of the community.
- Develop effective public participation strategies: As appropriate, acknowledge and seek to
 overcome linguistic, cultural, institutional, geographic, and other barriers to meaningful
 participation, and incorporate active outreach to affected groups. Strategies include: using
 notices, mailings, fact sheets, briefings, presentations, exhibits, tours, news releases, translations,
 newsletters, reports, community interviews, surveys, canvassing, telephone hotlines, question
 and answer sessions, stakeholder meetings, and on-scene information.¹⁷
- Meaningful community representation: Seek to have complete representation of the community as a whole. 18 Recognize that community participation should occur as early as possible if it is to be meaningful. The EIS should describe what was done to inform the communities about the project and the potential impacts it will have on their communities, what input was received from the communities, and how that input was utilized in the decisions that were made regarding the project.
- Tribal representation: Seek tribal representation in the process in a manner that is consistent with the government-to-government relationship between the United States and tribal governments, the federal government's trust responsibility to federally-recognized tribes, and any treaty rights.

We would also emphasize CEQ's framework for determining whether environmental effects are disproportionately high and adverse. Consider:

- whether environmental effects are or may be having an adverse impact on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian tribes that appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed those on the general population or other appropriate comparison group; and
- whether the disproportionate impacts occur or would occur in a minority population, low-income population, or Indian tribe affected by cumulative or multiple adverse exposures from environmental hazards. 19

¹⁵ Includes tribal subsistence and cultural resources/resource usage

¹⁶ Ensure that the resolution of the data used is appropriate for the action. For example, some health disparities may not be visualized at the county level, whereas health planning area, census tract, and/or block group level data may be necessary. Analysis should include data at the highest resolution that still provides statistically significant and valid intercomparisons. ¹⁷ Media and outreach should be conducted in a culturally-appropriate manner. Multiple media will likely be needed if diverse and/or multi-generational communities are affected

¹⁸ For example, diversity of those who participate in meetings should reflect the diversity of the community. ¹⁹ CEQ, *Environmental Justice Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act*, December 10, 1997, http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ej/justice.pdf.

With regard to mitigation, measures for avoidance or minimization of impacts should be considered first. Where avoidance or minimization is not possible, mitigation measures should be proposed. Mitigation measures should be developed with input from the affected population.

Consider including a summary conclusion for the environmental justice analysis, sometimes referred to as an "environmental justice determination." This determination/summary can summarize identified environmental justice concerns and express whether and how impacts have been appropriately avoided, minimized or mitigated.

For more information see:

EPA's website Environmental Justice Considerations in the NEPA Process, which includes agency guidance, best practices, methodologies, and online tools such as EJ View and NEPAssist.²⁰

EPA models and tools

- Risk Assessment portal²¹
- Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool²²
- Community Cumulative Assessment Tool²³
- Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Exposure Assessment Tools and Models²⁴
- Environmental Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program²⁵

Data resources

- EPA
 - o Report on the Environment²⁶
 - America's Children and the Environment Report²⁷
 - National Air Toxics Assessments²⁸
 - o Technology Transfer Netwok Air Quality System²⁹
 - Superfund Site Information³⁰
 - o Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information (RCRAInfo)31
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - State and Local Tracking Portals³²
 - o environmental public health indicators and data³³
 - CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report³⁴

http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/nepaej/index.html

²⁰ EPA, Environmental Justice Considerations in the NEPA Process,

²¹ EPA, Risk Assessment, http://epa.gov/risk/.

²² EPA, Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool, http://www.epa.gov/heasd/c-ferst/.

²³ EPA, Community Cumulative Assessment Tool, http://www.epa.gov/research/healthscience/health-ccat.htm.

²⁴ EPA, Exposure Assessment Tools and Models, http://www.epa.gov/oppt/exposure/.

²⁵ EPA. Environmental Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program, http://www.epa.gov/air/benmap/.

²⁶ EPA, Report on the Environment, http://www.epa.gov/roe/.

²⁷ EPA, America's Children and the Environment, http://www.epa.gov/ace/.

²⁸ EPA, National Air Toxics Assessments, http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/natamain/.

²⁹ EPA, Technology Transfer Network Air Quality System, http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/.

³⁰ EPA, Superfund Site Information, http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/.

³¹ EPA, RCRAInfo. http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/rcrainfo/search.html.

³² CDC, State and Local Tracking Portals, http://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showStateTracking.action.

³³ CDC, *Indicators and Data*, http://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showIndicatorsData.action.

³⁴ CDC, CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report, http://www.cdc.gov/minorityhealth/CHDIReport.html.

- Federal Geographic Data Committee Geospatial Platform³⁵
- U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder³⁶
- State or county public health and environmental databases
- State databases for state-regulated facilities
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin County Health Ranking and Roadmaps³⁷

Children's Health and Safety

Executive Order 13045 on children's health and safety directs that each Federal agency shall make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children, and shall ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address these risks. Analysis and disclosure of these potential effects is appropriate because some physiological and behavioral traits of children render them more susceptible and vulnerable than adults to health and safety risks. Children may be more highly exposed to contaminants because they generally eat more food, drink more water, and have higher inhalation rates relative to their size. Also, children's normal activities, such as putting their hands in their mouths or playing on the ground, can result in higher exposures to contaminants as compared with adults. Children may be more vulnerable to the toxic effects of contaminants because their bodies and systems are not fully developed and their growing organs are more easily harmed.

Significance Criteria

According to CEQ's regulations implementing NEPA, an Environmental Impact Statement, "...shall provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and shall inform decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the environment." In addition, CEQ regulations state that "[a]gencies shall focus on significant environmental issues..." 39

To focus analysis on potentially significant environmental impacts, it is helpful to utilize project-specific significance criteria. These criteria can then be directly and explicitly linked to the EIS's analysis of environmental consequences. This style of analysis can be an effective strategy for meeting the intent of 40 CFR Part 1502.

There are several conceptual - and generally substantive – examples.

• U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' July 2012 Draft EIS/EIR/Application Summary Report for the Eagle Rock Aggregate Terminal Project⁴⁰

³⁵ Federal Geographic Data Committee, *Geospatial Platform*, http://www.geoplatform.gov.

³⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Fact Finder*, http://factfinder2.census.gov/.

³⁷ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin, *County Health Rankings and Roadmaps*, http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/.

³⁸ Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, Executive Order 13045, Fed. Reg. 19885-19888, (April 23,1997).

³⁹ 40 CFR 1502.1.

⁴⁰ See, for example, Section 3.1.3 Air Quality and Health Risk Significance Criteria at http://www.polb.com/environment/docs.asp

- U.S. Department of the Navy's August 2012 Draft EIS for the Naval Weapons Systems Boardman⁴¹
- U.S. Department of Energy and Western Area Power Administration's July 2010 draft EIS on the Grapevine Canyon Wind Project⁴²
- U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration's April 2012 Merced to Fresno Section Project EIR/EIS⁴³
- Bureau of Ocean Energy, Management, Regulation and Enforcement's August 2011 Final Supplemental EIS for the Chukchi Sea Oil and Gas Lease Sale 193⁴⁴

⁴² See, for example, "Standards of Significance" for Water Resources (Section 3.6.2.1) at http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/grapevine/DEISv1complete.pdf

⁴¹ See, for example, Section 3.4.1.7 Accoustic Environment Determination of Significance at http://nwstfboardmaneis.com/Portals/NWSTFBoardmanEIS/DEIS/03_04_AcousticEnvironment.pdf

⁴³ See, for example, Section 3.2.3.4 Transportation Methods for Evaluating Impacts Under NEPA at http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/assets/0/152/407/410/1f47362d-1491-446b-b7b1-7dc8e6b8bd7b.pdf; and,

⁴⁴ See, for example, Section IV.A.1 Basic Assumptions for Effects Assessment Significance Thresholds at http://www.bsee.gov/About-BSEE/BSEE-Regions/Alaska-Region/Chukchi-Sea-Planning-Area-Oil-and-Gas-Lease-Sale-193.aspx

Appendix G

Annotated Outline

Draft Environmental Impact Statement Annotated Outline

Southern Flow Corridor Project

DR-1733-OR
Tillamook County, Oregon *May 2014*



Federal Emergency Management Agency Region X Department of Homeland Security 130 – 228th Street SW Bothell, WA 98021 This page was intentionally left blank.

Annotated Outline for the Southern Flow Corridor Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement

This outline identifies the proposed structure of the Southern Flow Corridor Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and regulatory requirements and proposed methodologies for analysis in each topic area.

The Draft EIS will be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality in 40 CFR Parts 1500 to 1508, FEMA regulations in 44 CFR Parts 9 and 10, and other applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders addressing environmental protection. The Draft EIS is intended for review by a broad public and agency audience.

Table of Contents

Table of contents to third order headings with separate lists for appendices, tables, and figures.

Acronyms

BMP Best Management Practice

CAA Clean Air Act

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CWA Clean Water Act

DEIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement

EIS Environmental Impact Statement

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards NEPA National Environmental Policy Act NMFS National Marine Fisheries Service

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OAR Oregon Administrative Rules
ODA Oregon Department of Agriculture

ODEQ Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODFW Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

ODSL Oregon Department of State Lands

ORS Oregon Revised Statutes
USC United States Code

USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Executive Summary

An Executive Summary will be prepared that summarizes the purpose and need, the alternatives analyzed, the potential impacts, and mitigation measures.

Section 1 Introduction

This section provides an overview of the project and project area and describes the background and history for the project. Roles, responsibilities, authorities, and the decision making process for the lead agency and any cooperating agencies will also be described in this section.

Section 2 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed action will be defined in terms of the objective to be achieved rather than in terms of any particular approach to achieving the objective.

Section 3 Alternatives

An introductory section will be included to discuss the alternative development and screening process. This section will focus on the application of the objectives from the purpose and need section to screen alternatives and will not repeat the history and background of the project found in Section 1.

GIS analysis will be used to develop a consistent set of descriptors for each alternative and to unify the boundaries and measurement of parameters such as length of levees removed/modified.

3.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative is included to describe the conditions without the project and provides a basis for comparison for the other alternatives.

3.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action (Southern Flow Corridor Landowner Preferred Alternative)

The Proposed Action entails protection and restoration of approximately 521 acres of tidal wetland habitats and an increase of flood capacity in the lower Wilson River floodplain. The Proposed Action includes the following elements:

- Levee and fill removal removal of approximately 85,000 cubic yards of fill and approximately 7 miles of levees and dikes. Material removed would mostly be used for construction of new dikes, filling ditches, and rebuilding of natural salt marsh elevations.
- New and modified dikes- lowering 2.1 miles of levees; upgrade and construction of 2.1 miles of dikes; removal and/or relocation of seven tidegates and one floodgate; and removal of four structures.
- New floodgates installation of a new high capacity floodgate structure to replace the
 existing gates, provide additional conveyance capacity, and allow rapid post flood
 drainage.

- Hall Slough improving the hydraulic connectivity between Hall and Blind Sloughs by removing the Fuhrman Road berm and construction of a Hall Slough – Blind Slough connector channel.
- Habitat restoration and other elements restoring natural tidal processes by removing and/or modifying constructed features and placement of large wood.

3.3 Alternative 3: Hall Slough Alternative

The Hall Slough Alternative consists of reconnection of tidal flows in the historic slough, high flow flushing from the Wilson River, and setback levees with riparian plantings. Hall Slough would be deepened and widened in sections to promote flows toward the Bay.

3.4 Alternative 4: Southern Flow Corridor – Initial Alternative

The Southern Flow Corridor Initial Alternative was developed as part of the Project Exodus Alternative developed through the USACE feasibility study process. This alternative focused on an area similar to the Proposed Action, but with a different configuration of levee removal/modification and potentially different hydrological results. This alternative would result in significant area of wetland restoration.

3.5 Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition Alternative

Includes a large swale to direct flood flows away from Tillamook and US 101 into the project area where it would be funneled into existing hayfields. This area would have a flowage easement placed on it. Areas to the north and south of the existing fields would be restored to wetland habitats.

3.6 Other Alternatives Considered and Dismissed from Further Review

Alternatives may be screened to eliminate those that do not meet the purpose and need. The screening process will be documented in the DEIS. Public comments received during scoping will also be used to screen alternatives. The DEIS will document the reasoning behind elimination of alternatives from detailed consideration.

Section 4 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

4.1 Introduction

The DEIS will describe current conditions for each area of concern that could be affected by the proposed action and each alternative. This information will serve as a baseline from which to identify and evaluate potential impacts. The DEIS will analyze the potential impacts of the

activities in each area of concern. The criteria to be used for determining the significance of impacts in each area of concern will be described.

For each area of concern, the context and intensity of potential impacts will be evaluated based on the criteria shown in the table below. The DEIS will provide information and analysis sufficient to support an assessment of the significance of the impacts.

Impact Scale	Criteria
None/Negligible	The resource area would not be affected, or changes would be either non- detectable or if detected, would have effects that would be slight and local. Impacts would be well below regulatory standards, as applicable.
Minor	Changes to the resource would be measurable, although the changes would be small and localized. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, as applicable. Mitigation measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.
Moderate	Changes to the resource would be measurable and have both localized and regional scale impacts. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, but historical conditions are being altered on a short-term basis. Mitigation measures would be necessary and the measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.
Major	Changes would be readily measurable and would have substantial consequences on a local and regional level. Impacts would exceed regulatory standards. Mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would be required to reduce impacts, though long-term changes to the resource would be expected.

For each area of concern, the DEIS will evaluate the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and will distinguish between temporary (construction-related) and permanent impacts.

The introductory section of Section 4 will summarize resource areas that could not be affected by the proposed action and explain why there would not be any effects. The list of resources not affected will be adjusted and refined as the analysis progresses.

Under each resource area relevant regulations and authorities are listed. These provide the thresholds of significance that will be used in the analysis. If an alternative would not be in compliance with a statute that generally indicates that there would be a significant impact that would require mitigation.

For most resource areas, the methodology includes gathering data on the current condition of the resource from existing data sources, developing the thresholds of significance from the relevant regulations and guidance, evaluating how each alternative would or would not change the existing condition and whether that change would be in compliance with the regulations and guidance. Mitigation measures would be identified that could avoid or minimize impacts to keep the alternative in compliance. Under some resource areas, there are specific methodologies that would be used and those are described below. The results of field surveys to describe existing conditions of biological resources, water resources, cultural resources, and hazardous materials

will be presented. The detailed field survey methodology for biological resources and cultural resources are provided in separate memos. Field surveys to delineate wetlands and to identify hazardous materials (Phase I and Phase II where necessary) will be conducted by the applicant and the DEIS will rely on the results of those reviews.

4.2 Resources Not Affected and Not Considered Further

Resources such as wild and scenic rivers that would not be affected by the proposed project will be briefly mentioned with an explanation of why they would not be affected.

4.3 Impact Summary

This is a short section that includes a table comparing the potential impacts of each alternative as a summary introduction to the detailed analyses that follow.

4.4 Biological Resources

This section will provide an overview of the affected area and potential effects¹ from each of the alternatives on biological resources, including vegetation and wildlife, threatened and endangered species and critical habitats, and migratory birds. The project area supports a number of threatened or endangered species, and the proposed action has the potential to significantly improve long-term conditions for fish and wildlife. Project construction, on the other hand, has the potential for adverse effects on fish and wildlife. Impacts to threatened and endangered species will be addressed in detail in a Biological Assessment and also summarized in the Draft EIS.

The species of greatest concern to tribes and resource agencies are salmonids (including the threatened Oregon Coast coho) and other aquatic species because project waters provide critical rearing and migration habitat. The Tillamook Bay watershed supports spawning runs of six salmonid stocks and other aquatic species that are important culturally, commercially, and for recreation.

Biological resources within the project area are regulated by several federal, state, and local laws and policies, which are listed below. These regulations and authorities provide the thresholds of significance that will be used in the analysis. If an alternative would not be in compliance with a statute that generally indicates that there would be a significant impact that would require mitigation.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

- Endangered Species Act (7 USC 136; 16 USC 1531 et seq.)
- Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 USC 1801-1884)
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 USC 661 et seq.)

¹ The methodology to be used for the Biological Resources effects analysis will be described in a separate methodology memo currently in preparation.

- The "Programmatic Restoration Opinion for Joint Ecosystem Conservation by the Services (PROJECTS) Programmatic (USFWS and NOAA Restoration Center), Oregon, Washington, Idaho" may provide ESA coverage for the project as well as some thresholds for significance and conservation measures for consideration in the Draft EIS
- Pacific Coast Salmon Management Plan (Pacific Fisheries Management Council 1997)
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 703 et seq.)
- Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 USC 1361 et seq.)
- Clean Water Act (33 USC 1251 et seq.)
- Executive Order 11990- Protection of Wetlands (42 FR 26961)
- Executive Order 11988- Floodplain Management (42 FR 26951)
- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 CFR 668)
- Noxious Weed Act (7 USC 2801 et seq.)
- Executive Order 13112 Invasive Species (64 FR 6183)
- Tillamook Bay National Estuary Project Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan

State Authorities and Regulations

- Oregon Endangered Species Act (Oregon Revised Statutes [ORS] 496 et seq.)
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) requirements including In-Water Timing Guidelines, Fish Passage, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation, and compliance with the Oregon Conservation Strategy
- Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) Oregon Removal-Fill Law (ORS 196 et seq.)
- Oregon Noxious Weed Control Law (ORS 561)
- Oregon State-Wide Planning Goals and Guidelines (Oregon Administrative Rules [OAR] 660-015-0000[1-6, 8-14], OAR 660-015-0005, and 660-015-0010[1-4])

Local Authorities and Regulations

- Tillamook County Comprehensive Plan (1982-2004)
- Tillamook County land use regulations
- City of Tillamook land use regulations

4.4.1 Vegetation

4.4.1.1 Current Conditions

This section will describe the vegetation communities and habitat types in the project area. USFWS documentation that rare plant surveys are not necessary will be included. Methodology for gathering data on existing vegetation conditions is described in a separate memo.

4.4.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.4.2 Fish and Wildlife

4.4.2.1 Current Conditions

This section will describe fish and wildlife resources in the project area. Methodology for gathering data on existing fish and wildlife conditions is described in a separate memo. The evaluation of potential effects on fish and wildlife resources from the project alternatives will consider changes in tidal hydrology and channel morphology, sedimentation, fish passage, distribution, and density, fish use of large wood structures, and macro-invertebrates.

The Fish and Wildlife section will also include the evaluation of potential effects on migratory birds area and the requirements of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act for avoiding effects to nesting migratory birds.

4.4.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.4.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

4.4.3.1 Current Conditions

This section will describe special-status species with potential to occur in the project area. Special-status species include federally threatened, endangered, proposed and/or candidate plant or wildlife species (USFWS and NMFS), federal species of concern (USFWS), state threatened, endangered, and proposed wildlife species (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, ODFW), state sensitive animals (ODFW), and state threatened, endangered, and candidate plants (Oregon Department of Agriculture, ODA). Designated critical habitat for federal threatened and endangered species that occurs within the project area will also be identified in this section. The

methodology for gathering data on existing threatened and endangered species that may occur in the project area is described in a separate memo.

This section will include information about the property's forested stands which contain larger spruce trees with deformed limbs and mossy cover within the nesting range of threatened marbled murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*). The property is not within designated critical habitat and the habitat and forest matrix would be considered marginal. However, some trees with suitable potential nesting characteristics are present.

4.4.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.5 Water Resources

This section will provide an overview of water resources in the project area, including floodplains, wetlands, surface water, and groundwater. The effects analysis will consider the potential for each of the project alternatives to have effects related to flooding, wetlands hydrology, water quality, and groundwater levels. The evaluation of effects related to flooding and hydrology will be based on information from modeling studies. The evaluation of the project alternatives will consider temporary construction effects as well as long-term effects to water resources.

Water resources within the project area are regulated by several federal, state, and local laws and policies, which are listed below.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

- Clean Water Act (33 USC 1251 et seq.)
- River and Harbors Act (33 USC 401 et seq.)
- Safe Drinking Water Act (42 USC 201 et seq.)
- National Flood Insurance Act and Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 USC 4001-4128)
- Executive Order 11990- Protection of Wetlands (42 FR 26961)
- Executive Order 11988- Floodplain Management (42 FR 26951)
- FEMA Regulations (44 CFR)

State Authorities and Regulations

 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) Water Quality Certification (CWA Section 401)

- ODEQ 1200-C Stormwater Permit requirements
- Water Pollution Control Act (ORS 468B.048)
- Oregon Removal-Fill Law (ORS 196 et seq.)
- Oregon State-Wide Planning Goals and Guidelines (OAR 660-015-0000[1-6, 8-14], OAR 660-015-0005, and 660-015-0010[1-4])

Local Authorities and Regulations

- Tillamook County Comprehensive Plan (1982-2004)
- City of Tillamook Flood Mitigation Action Plan

4.5.1 Floodplains/Flood Protection

This section will provide a discussion of floodplains associated with the project area and provide an evaluation of the effects of the project alternatives related to flooding. This section will include a description of the H&H modeling of flood elevations in the study area. Model results without a project will be shown under the current conditions and referenced under the No Action Alternative. Model results with a project will be provided for each alternative to the extent possible. Surveyed cross sections on which the model is based vary in their accuracy by alternative.

The review will include an evaluation of the viability of the proposed action in relation to other alternatives. The effectiveness of the project in reducing flood hazards and its effects on floodplain function are key issues to be addressed through the review of the hydraulic modeling. The analysis will attempt to provide the public with an understanding of the confidence intervals on the model results. Limited hydraulic analysis with only minor model modifications may be performed using the as-is models provided. The evaluation of hydrologic patterns in affected drainages will be based on a qualitative analysis, unless existing applicable quantitative analyses are found to be available.

In compliance with 44 CFR Part 9 and Executive Order 11988 the Eight-Step Decision Making Process to evaluate potential impacts to floodplains will be summarized in this section and the complete combined floodplain and wetland evaluation will be contained in an appendix. Step 1, determine if the project is located in a floodplain or wetland is completed and will be documented. Step 2, preliminary notice, has been combined with the NOI. The Draft EIS will document steps 4, 5, 6, and 7. Step 7, final notification will be included in the public notice and review of the Draft EIS.

4.5.1.1 Current Conditions

Three rivers pass through the Tillamook Valley to Tillamook Bay, creating a large floodplain vulnerable to severe flooding. The City and County of Tillamook have repeatedly experienced severe floods, and in recent years the community has implemented several flood mitigation projects to reduce damage from future floods.

4.5.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.5.2 Wetlands

This section will provide a discussion of existing conditions with respect to wetlands, including tidal marsh and freshwater wetlands in the project area, based on wetland delineations and functional assessments. The effects analysis will consider the effects on these wetland resources from changes to hydrology under each of the project alternatives. The area of potential wetland restoration varies significantly between each alternative. GIS analysis will be used to estimate the amount of wetlands affected/restored under each alternative.

The Eight-Step Decision Making Process to evaluate potential impacts to wetlands will be summarized in this section and the complete combined floodplain and wetland evaluation will be contained in an appendix.

4.5.2.1 Current Conditions

4.5.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.5.3 Surface Water

This section will describe the surface water resources in the project area and provide an evaluation of potential effects to river morphology/structure and water quality from the project alternatives. This section will evaluate potential concerns related to saltwater intrusion, the potential for mercury in the soils to be mobilized as methylmercury into surface waters, or for other agricultural-related contaminants to enter surface waters under altered hydrologic regimes. The potential impact of re-introducing tide cycles into project areas on surface waters will be evaluated. The proposed action may temporarily increase turbidity through scour and soil erosion until streambanks and channels stabilize. The resulting turbidity could impact water quality.

4.5.3.1 Current Conditions

4.5.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.5.4 Groundwater Resources

This section will describe the groundwater resources in the project area and provide an evaluation of potential changes to groundwater levels and groundwater quality from the project alternatives. The potential issue of how restoration of tidal fluctuations may affect groundwater levels on adjacent lands may be addressed in this section or it may ultimately fit better under either surface water or flood effects.

4.5.4.1 Current Conditions

4.5.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.6 Physical Resources

This section will describe the physical resources of the project area and provide an evaluation of the potential environmental effects from each of the alternatives related to geology and soils, coastal resources, air quality, climate change, and visual quality and aesthetics.

4.6.1 Geology and Soils

The analysis of effects to geology and soils will consider management of surface soil erosion during the construction period as well as long-term under each of the alternatives. Changes to geomorphology and sediment transport will be evaluated based on existing studies.

Compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act will be evaluated for each alternative. This section will evaluate each alternative for its potential to affect prime or unique farmlands through wetland restoration actions. Effects on the agricultural industry will be evaluated in the socioeconomic effects sections. Potential effects to farmland productivity as a result of changes in hydrological regimes that may affect soils will be evaluated for each of the alternatives.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 FR 658.2(a))

Local Authorities and Regulations

• Tillamook County Comprehensive Plan (1982-2004)

4.6.1.1 Current Conditions

4.6.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.6.2 Coastal Resources

Coastal resources in the project area include habitat for important coastal fisheries including coho and chum salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The evaluation of potential effects on coastal resources from the project alternatives will consider changes in tidal hydrology and channel morphology, sedimentation, and fish distribution and density. Coastal resources also include tourism and recreation. This section will reference the results of sections on fish and wildlife and economics. Compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act will be evaluated for each alternative.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Coastal Zone Management Act (15 FR 930)

State Authorities and Regulations

• Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency Certification

4.6.2.1 Current Conditions

4.6.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.6.3 Air Quality

Tillamook County is in an attainment area for all criteria pollutants under the Clean Air Act (CAA). Therefore, no further reviews of the proposed alternatives are required from the perspective of the CAA general conformity requirements.

An analysis of effects to air quality during construction and maintenance for the proposed alternatives will be conducted to identify and quantify emissions of criteria pollutants from the operation of construction and maintenance equipment. Impacts related to fugitive dust will also be considered. This section may be reorganized into the Construction Impacts section.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Clean Air Act (42 USC 7418 et seq.) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) established in 40 CFR 50

State Authorities and Regulations

• ODEQ- Oregon Air Pollution Control (ORS 468A et. seq.)

4.6.3.1 Current Conditions

4.6.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.6.4 Climate Change

Climate change is predicted to result in increased temperature, changes to seasonal precipitation, sea level rise and storm surge, reduced snow pack, reduced warm-season runoff, increased heavy precipitation, and increased number of extreme heat days. The current Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predictions for global sea level rise by 2100 are from 0.6 to 2 feet. Levee and diking projects in coastal environments raise issues of long-term effectiveness in the face of anticipated climate change and sea level rise. The analysis will evaluate the applicant's assessment of the effect of sea level rise on the proposed project area. The evaluation will qualitatively extrapolate that evaluation to the other alternatives to review the ability of each alternative to provide community resiliency into the future. This section will provide an evaluation of how these predicted climate change impacts will affect the project alternatives, particularly with regard to potential flood scenarios.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from the project alternatives will be evaluated to determine how they may impact global climate change. The required data identified in the air quality section, such as construction equipment, truck trips, haul route data, construction worker information, and hours of operation will be used to quantify GHG emissions.

Wetland restoration may provide a buffer against climate change by capturing greenhouse gases. The Draft EIS will explore the potential for the project to provide climate change benefits as compared to the existing condition, and describe potential effects of climate change on the project.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Executive Order 13653 - Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change

4.6.4.1 Current Conditions

4.6.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough

Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.6.5 Visual Quality and Aesthetics

The visual quality and aesthetics section will consider the aesthetics and visual resources of the project area and evaluate potential both short- and long-term changes to the scenic qualities of the landscape based on the exiting visual resources, public sensitivity towards the landscape, and the visibility of the landscape from travel routes or observation points in the project area.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

- Federal Lands Policy Management Act of 1976
- National Forest Management Act
- Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century
- National Highway System Act of 1995
- Highway Beautification Act of 1965
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 USC 1271 et seq.)
- National Trails Act
- Antiquities Act
- Wilderness Act of 1964

4.6.5.1 Current Conditions

4.6.5.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough

Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.7 Cultural Resources

This section will describe the cultural resources associated with the project area and the potential effects² on cultural resources of each of the alternatives. The cultural resources work will include the following steps: tribal coordination, background research and a literature review, field reconnaissance and survey, technical report preparation, and evaluation of the effects of the alternatives. The methodology will be described in a separate research design that will be reviewed and approved by the SHPO before field work commences.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

² The methodology to be used for the Cultural Resources effects analysis will be described in a separate methodology memo currently in preparation.

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106
- Archeological and Historic Preservation Act 16 USC 469a-1
- Executive Order 13084 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments

State Authorities and Regulations

- Indian Graves and Protected Objects (ORS 97.740-760)
- Archeological Objects and Sites (ORS 358.905-955 ORS 390.235)

4.7.1 Current Conditions

The methodology for gathering data on existing cultural resources that may occur in the project area is described in a separate memo.

The coastal lowlands at the edge of Tillamook Bay in the project area historically supported wetlands and streams rich in fish, wildlife, and important plant materials. It is expected that the project area has a high likelihood of containing cultural resources from Native American use and occupation. The proposed action and most of the alternatives, which include a significant amount of earthwork, have the potential to discover these resources.

4.7.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.8 Socioeconomics

These sections will provide an overview of the socioeconomic environment and the potential impacts from each of the alternatives on these resources.

4.8.1 Regional Economics

This section will describe the regional economics of the project area. The existing economy will be described under current conditions and the potential impacts from repetitive flooding of residential, commercial, and agricultural areas and impacts on water quality in Tillamook Bay will be discussed under the No Action Alternative. This will provide a basis of comparison for assessing the potential regional economic impacts associated with the project alternatives, such as flood mitigation, recreational spending, and jobs.

The proposed project would convert agricultural lands to tidal wetlands and off-channel habitats. Setback levees would move the footprint of existing levees to new locations, while other levees would offer greater protection to some agricultural lands. Supporting agriculture and the local economy is a critical issue for the community. In addition, the project could provide benefits to both recreational and commercial fishing industries. The analysis will evaluate the alternatives

for compliance with the city and county land use regulations. Regional economic impacts may result from short-term construction activities and long-term effects of the project.

The economic analysis will include the following steps:

- Identify the economic region, which could be Tillamook County alone or Tillamook County and neighboring counties;
- Determine the short-term impacts of the project. Construction would provide a temporary boost to the regional economy by increasing spending on construction materials and employment for construction workers;
- Identify the level of in-region spending versus out-of-region spending to accurately
 quantify the economic benefits to the region. Out-of-region spending would not provide
 any benefit to the region;
- Identify long-term economic effects of the project, which would include decreased agricultural revenues, increased spending on recreation activities, and flood damage reduction benefits;
- Review the results of the HAZUS analysis and BCA to determine these direct economic effects of the project;
- Use IMPLAN to quantify indirect and induced impacts in the regional economy. IMPLAN is a commonly used software package that uses multipliers to quantify industry and household linkages within a defined regional economy. IMPLAN will provide the total economic effects to employment, wages and salaries, and output of the project; and
- Qualitatively evaluate effects to local tax revenues.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Executive Order 12962- Recreational Fisheries

Local Authorities and Regulations

- Port of Tillamook Bay
- Tillamook County
- City of Tillamook North Highway 101 Business District

4.8.1.1 Current Conditions

4.8.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.8.2 Environmental Justice

This section will use demographic data obtained from federal and local governments to evaluate the potential for disproportionate effects on low-income, minority, or tribal populations from the project alternatives. This would include areas where construction would occur, communities along construction traffic routes, or other areas where significant environmental impacts are identified.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Executive Order 12898- Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

4.8.2.1 Current Conditions

4.8.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.8.3 Public Health and Safety

This section will provide an evaluation of the potential effects of the project alternatives on public health and safety during construction as well as effects from long-term changes in hydrology and the potential for flooding of structures, roads, and bridges in the valley.

To assess potential impacts on existing emergency response plans or evacuation routes, the location of local emergency services (e.g., hospitals, fire stations) in proximity to the project area will be noted to determine likely travel routes. Readily available information on local and county emergency response plans and emergency evacuation plans will also be reviewed and compared to potential road closures that may result from either construction or likely flood elevations that may remain with implementation of each alternative.

The evaluation will also consider impacts related to operation of the Tillamook Airport.

Local Authorities and Regulations

• Tillamook County Emergency Management and Services

4.8.3.1 Current Conditions

4.8.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough

Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.8.4 Public Services and Utilities

This section will provide an evaluation of the potential effect of the project alternatives on public services such as roads maintenance, solid waste management, and utility infrastructure including electrical, water, and sewer lines.

Local Authorities and Regulations

- Tillamook County Public Works, Roads Department and Solid Waste
- Tillamook People's Utility District
- City of Tillamook Public Works Department

4.8.4.1 Current Conditions

4.8.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.9 Construction Impacts

Some resources such as noise and traffic may only have construction-related impacts and will be discussed as subsections of construction impacts. Other construction-related impacts will be summarized in this section.

4.9.1 Noise

This section will provide an evaluation of noise impacts from the project alternatives. Existing ambient noise levels at selected receptor locations (including any sensitive receptors such as residences, schools, churches, libraries, hospitals, and parks) will be estimated using published average ambient noise levels for various land uses. Noise from construction equipment in the project area and construction-related traffic will be evaluated for each project alternative.

The State of Oregon has established statewide noise thresholds for industrial and commercial noise sources (OAR, Chapter 340, Division 35); however, noise from construction activities is exempt. There are also noise limits for blasting and impulse sounds associated with industrial and commercial operations, such as mining operations, however these limits also do not apply to construction sites.

4.9.1.1 Current Conditions

4.9.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.9.2 Traffic

This section will describe the road networks where construction truck and construction worker traffic would occur and will provide an evaluation of the potential effects on traffic from the project alternatives. Potential impacts to be analyzed include effects on traffic circulation, public transit routes, non-motorized transit, public safety, and physical effects on existing roads from increased construction traffic.

For each alternative, construction data will be collected including: potential number of construction trucks, construction truck routes and timing, construction staging area locations, number of workers, and worker traffic routes and timing. Existing and forecasted traffic flow levels on state roads and highways will be collected from Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Effects will be compared to adopted federal, state, and local traffic plans to evaluate significance.

State Authorities and Regulations

• ODOT regulations and guidance related to level of service on highways and arterials

Local Authorities and Regulations

- Tillamook County Public Works, Roads Department
- City of Tillamook Public Works Department

4.9.2.1 Current Conditions

4.9.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative
Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

4.9.3 Hazardous Materials

This section will describe the potential for encountering hazardous materials during construction, based on existing information from environmental sampling and past laboratory analyses of soil, sediment, surface water, or groundwater within the project area. Information to support this discussion may also include a search of regulatory databases maintained by Environmental Data Resources Inc. (EDR) to identify sites within the project area where hazardous materials may be present based on regulatory records of investigation and/or remediation conducted under the oversight of federal, state, or local agencies. The potential impacts related to short-term

exposure of construction workers and the public to contaminated soil, sediment, surface

water, and/or groundwater from historic releases if contaminated media is handled, transported, or disposed will be discussed. In addition, the potential release of construction-related hazardous materials such as fuels and oils during construction and maintenance activities will be evaluated. If long-term impacts related to hazardous materials are identified then this section may be reorganized into the socioeconomics section.

Federal Authorities and Regulations

• Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (49 USC § 5101 et seq.)

State Authorities and Regulations

• ODEQ- Environmental Cleanup Laws (ORS 465.200-420, 465.900, 466.605-680)

4.9.4.1 Current Conditions

4.9.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Alternative 2: Southern Flow Corridor

Alternative 3: Hall Slough
Alternative 4: Project Exodus

Alternative 5: Modified Wetland Acquisition

Section 5 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative effects analysis is an important element of the environmental documentation and approval process and is required by NEPA. Cumulative effects result from two or more effects that may be considered insignificant when analyzed separately, but become significant when considered together. Cumulative effects analysis must take into consideration related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The potential for cumulative effects from other flood hazard reduction and construction projects will be discussed in this section.

Past, present, and likely future projects will be identified in consultation with the Port of Tillamook Bay, Tillamook County, and the City of Tillamook. The area of potential flood level reduction is over 3,000 acres. The applicants have been evaluating and implementing flood hazard reduction projects in the Tillamook Valley for many years including some that have been implemented in recent years. These projects will be identified and included in the list of projects to consider in the assessment of cumulative impacts. Projects will be assessed for their potential to create cumulative effects, both positive and negative on flood hazards and habitats in the valley.

Cumulative impacts of the proposed action are evaluated in combination with other flood hazard reduction projects as well as other general construction projects that may affect the same resources as those affected by the proposed action. The evaluation will include the following steps:

- Identify potential cumulative impacts;
- Identify the geographic area to include in consideration of cumulative impacts;
- Identify the baseline from which to measure cumulative impacts;
- Identify past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects to include in the analysis of cumulative impacts; and
- Assess the magnitude of cumulative impacts.

Section 6 Mitigation

This section will describe potential mitigation measures including standard best management practices (BMPs), distinguishing between those that are necessary to reduce impacts below significant levels and those that would further reduce non-significant impacts. This description of mitigation measures will identify and discuss the measures required to comply with laws, regulations, and executive orders that apply to individual areas of concern.

Section 7 Agency Coordination, Public Involvement, and Permits

This section will include documentation of stakeholder outreach and agency coordination both previously conducted and proposed. Information would include stakeholder groups and agencies contacted, dates, contact method (e.g., email, letter, meeting), and a summary of concerns or issues raised by stakeholders and agencies. This section would summarize the EIS scoping process conducted for the project and reference the scoping report that will be included in an appendix.

This section would also describe the proposed public involvement process to be conducted for public review of the Draft EIS and the Final EIS.

A section on required permits for construction of the project will be presented. This will be developed in consultation with the Port of Tillamook Bay, Tillamook County, and the City of Tillamook. Although FEMA and NOAA are not responsible for permit applications or construction, this section helps to inform the public about the regulatory oversight that will be applied to the project construction.

Section 8 References

Section 9 List of Preparers

Appendices

Appendices may include:

- the notice of intent
- the scoping report
- the complete Eight-Step Decision Making Process on Floodplains and Wetlands
- technical memoranda on biological resources and hydraulic models. A redacted version of the cultural resources memo that deletes sensitive information may also be included